

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

CONTENTS FOR FEBRUARY 1958

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At a Glance

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IN JANUARY--Expenditures for new construction declined seasonally in January to \$3.3 billion but set a record for that month, exceeding by 3 percent the previous January high established in 1957. Private spending this January (\$2.4 billion) was up slightly from January 1957, as over-the-year decreases for industrial construction (11 percent), store building (16 percent), and new private dwelling units (3 percent) were offset by record January outlays this year for public utilities, office buildings, churches, and hospitals. Expenditures for public construction (\$924 million) showed a 6-percent gain from a year earlier, mainly because spending was at an alltime January high for highways, public schools, and sewer projects.

HOUSING STARTS IN 1957--The total of 1,039,200 houses and apartments begun in 1957 was the lowest since 1949 and 7 percent below 1956. The drop over the year was entirely in private single-family houses in metropolitan areas and in homes started under FHA and VA programs. Housing activity in nonmetropolitan places held steady between 1956 and 1957; publicly owned housing more than doubled, to 49,500; and private apartment building increased sharply to the highest level in 5 years. Regionally, according to preliminary reports, last year's decline in starts was heaviest in the Northern States; homebuilding in the West dropped proportionately only half as much, and activity in the South increased.

FHA-VA ACTIVITY IN 1957--Housing begun under FHA programs during 1957 was down 11 percent from 1956, but accounted for the same proportion of total private starts in both years, 17 percent. All of the decrease from 1956 was in FHA 1- to 4-family homes (the bulk of FHA-assisted housing); FHA multifamily project starts more than doubled 1956 volume. Applications for FHA mortgage insurance (excluding Capehart military housing), however, rose 5 percent between 1956 and 1957. On the other hand, VA activity (starts and appraisal requests) slumped to a record low in 1957, with starts representing only 13 percent of total private housing in 1957 compared with 25 percent in 1956.

NONFARM MORTGAGE RECORDINGS IN NOVEMBER--The number as well as the dollar volume of nonfarm mortgages recorded in November declined 16 percent and each was 11 percent below the corresponding 1956 figure and the lowest for any November since 1953. All types of mortgagees reported a smaller volume of lending in November 1957 than in the preceding month or in November 1956. By the end of the first 11 months, the value of mortgages recorded in 1957 on nonfarm homes totaled \$22.4 billion or 11 percent less than in the same 1956 period, with decreases shown by all institutional groups.

BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY IN DECEMBER--Building permit valuations declined 11 percent in December to \$1.1 billion but were slightly above a year earlier. For 1957 as a whole, the valuations total (\$18 billion) was 4 percent below 1956--chiefly reflecting the decrease in new housing, though permit volume was down also for stores and industrial buildings. Valuations increased from 1956 for community buildings and commercial structures other than stores.

PUBLIC CONTRACT AWARDS IN NOVEMBER--Public contracts awarded in November were valued at \$865.7 million--slightly less than in October, but 13 percent above the comparable 1956 figure. Although most major kinds of public work shared in the small October to November decline, there were significant increases in awards for Federal electric power projects and hospitals and for State and local highway construction. For the first 11 months of 1957, public contract awards totaled \$10.7 billion, or 12 percent above January-November 1956, reflecting primarily substantial dollar increases for military (Capehart) housing, State and local schools, and federally aided State highways.

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY--The value of construction contracts awarded during 1957, as reported by the F. W. Dodge Corp., was 2 percent above the total for 1956. The largest rise was in the utilities group, 12 percent. Awards for the other three major groups--residential building, nonresidential structures, and public works--were each up 1 percent over 1956.

Reports of the Engineering News-Record on the value of large construction contracts awarded during the 12 months ending in January 1958 showed a continuation of

At a Glance

the downtrend evident throughout 1957, dropping 17 percent below the total for the 12-month period ending in January 1957. Industrial building contracts have fallen off most rapidly, and the latest 12-month total--44 percent below the comparable year-ago figure--is smaller than for any 12-month period ending in 1956 or 1957. Only awards for nonbuilding categories, especially highways and bridges, have been showing any upward movements.

CONSTRUCTION COSTS IN DECEMBER--Construction costs, as measured by the Department of Commerce composite index, ended the year at the record high level maintained since the preceding July, 138 percent of the 1947-49 average, a rise of 3 percent above a year earlier. For the year 1957, costs averaged about 4 percent above 1956, compared with a 6-percent advance in the previous year. These were the largest increases since 1951, when the index rose 8 percent.

BUILDING MATERIALS PRICES IN DECEMBER--The December wholesale price index for building materials was unchanged from November at 130.1 (1947-49=100) and was only fractionally below December 1956. Prices declined in December 1957 for most lumber and wood products, continuing the downtrend begun in mid-1956, but these decreases were offset by increases for some types of paint and paint materials, building wire and insulation materials, nonmetallic sheathed cable, and asbestos shingles. By the end of 1957, prices were below year-earlier levels for many materials important in homebuilding, particularly lumber, metal sash, and plumbing equipment (4 to 5 percent), and also for millwork (1 percent). These price declines were almost balanced by sizable advances in quotations for structural steel shapes and asphalt roofing (13 percent and 9 percent, respectively), as well as gains of 2 to 4 percent for paint, structural clay products, portland cement, and concrete products.

UNION WAGE SCALES IN THE BUILDING TRADES, FOURTH QUARTER, 1957--Union hourly wage rates in the building trades rose 0.8 percent (or 2.5 cents) during the last 3 months of 1957, and reflected increased pay scales for nearly a fourth of the workers in the 7 major trades surveyed. At the beginning of 1958, the average union rate for all trades combined was \$3.23 an hour and was 5 percent (15 cents) higher than in January 1957, with over-the-year gains ranging from 10 cents an hour for bricklayers to 19 cents for plumbers.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OUTPUT IN NOVEMBER--The output of all major groups of construction materials fell from October to November, reflecting in some measure seasonal movements, and were below November 1956 levels. Over-the-year comparisons indicate that clay construction products led the trend by declining 17 percent from November 1956, followed by the paint, varnish, and lacquer group; millwork; iron and steel products; heating and plumbing equipment; and lumber and wood products, each registering a drop of more than 10 percent. Despite a more modest decline of 6 percent for asphalt products, this material established a new low for any November since World War II.

CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER--Contract construction employment declined more than seasonally in December, by 226,000 to 2,800,000 and continued below year-earlier levels for the fifth successive month. Detailed data available through November indicate that losses from November 1956 occurred in a majority of the States and primarily affected workers in general building and in most of the special trades. However, employment on highway and other heavy construction was higher than in any previous November.

HOURS AND EARNINGS IN NOVEMBER--Average weekly earnings in contract construction dropped more than usual in November, by \$7.24 to \$103.01, because of a 2.7-hour decline in the average workweek (to 34.8 hours). The October-November decrease in weekly pay and hours worked occurred on all types of contract construction, but was especially sharp in highway work. Primarily because of wage-rate increases over the year, earnings were higher this past November than in November 1956 (by 53 cents weekly and 16 cents hourly) although the workweek was 1.8 hours shorter. Over-the-year gains were experienced on all types of contract construction except general building and highway work for which a decline in hours more than offset wage gains.

Construction in 1957

The construction industry shared in the general advance of the Nation's economy and rose to a new peak in 1957. Expenditures for new construction rose 3 percent to \$47.3 billion and accounted for nearly 11 percent of the gross national product--about the same proportion as in 1955 and 1956.

This dollar rise in construction resulted from increased expenditures for most types of private nonresidential construction and for publicly owned projects. Primarily because of a sharp drop in private new homebuilding, however, last year's overall rate of increase was the smallest in the 12 years since the end of World War II, and total physical volume of new construction (expenditures adjusted for price changes) failed to equal the 1956 figure and continued the downtrend from the 1955 peak.

The total of \$33.3 billion for private new construction in 1957 was only slightly above the 1956 figure. Public construction expenditures rose 9 percent to a new high of \$13.9 billion.

The sharp advance since 1954 in national production as a whole decelerated during 1957. Toward the close of the year, however, the gross national product declined. The trends in personal consumption expenditures, disposable personal income, the volume of business borrowing, and interest rates followed much the same pattern--increasing in the first half or three quarters of 1957 and then declining. Of all the major sectors of the economy, only State and local government expenditures continued upward throughout the year.

The broad adjustments in 1957 were reflected in construction. Except for utilities expansion, the uptrend in building by other types of businesses weakened in 1957. Outlays for industrial plant expansion began to taper off during the year, the rise in office and warehouse building was less pronounced than in 1956, and store building dropped sharply. On the other hand, the downtrend in private homebuilding (seasonally adjusted), which had begun in mid-1955, appeared at least to have been halted by mid-1957 (chart 1).

The changing times and counterbalancing trends were reflected also in construction materials output and in contract construction employment which, during the early part of 1957, was ahead of employment in the comparable months of 1956 but fell below in later months. Production of most major materials dropped in 1957, with the principal exception of steel products used in heavy engineering (largely highway, dam, river and harbor, and utility work) which boomed throughout the year. Construction costs, which rose during the first half of 1957, virtually leveled off thereafter, repeating the pattern of 1956.

PRIVATE NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDING

The strong upward trend which marked the pace of private nonresidential building since the end of the Korean conflict lost some of its momentum in 1957 (chart 2). Although outlays rose \$300 million from the 1956 record level to \$9.1 billion, the rate of increase (4 percent) was the smallest in 5 years.

One of the most important influences in this sector was the slackening in the uptrend of expenditures for industrial construction in 1957 after a 50-percent increase between 1954 and 1956. In addition, there was a major drop in the dollar volume of expenditures for new stores, restaurants, and garages. Most of the 4-percent overall increase in the value put-in-place of all types of nonresidential buildings was accounted for by office buildings and warehouses.

Industrial construction, which rose 3 percent to a new high of \$3.2 billion in 1957, reached its peak in the spring of the year and after that tended downward from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$3.3 billion in May to \$2.9 billion in December. This small rise contrasts sharply with advances in 1956 (29 percent) and 1955 (18 percent). Between 1954 and 1957, most industries greatly increased their productive capacity. This was associated in 1957 with a declining backlog of new orders and led to a reduction in the value of new projects started during 1957, as well as a tapering off of work underway.

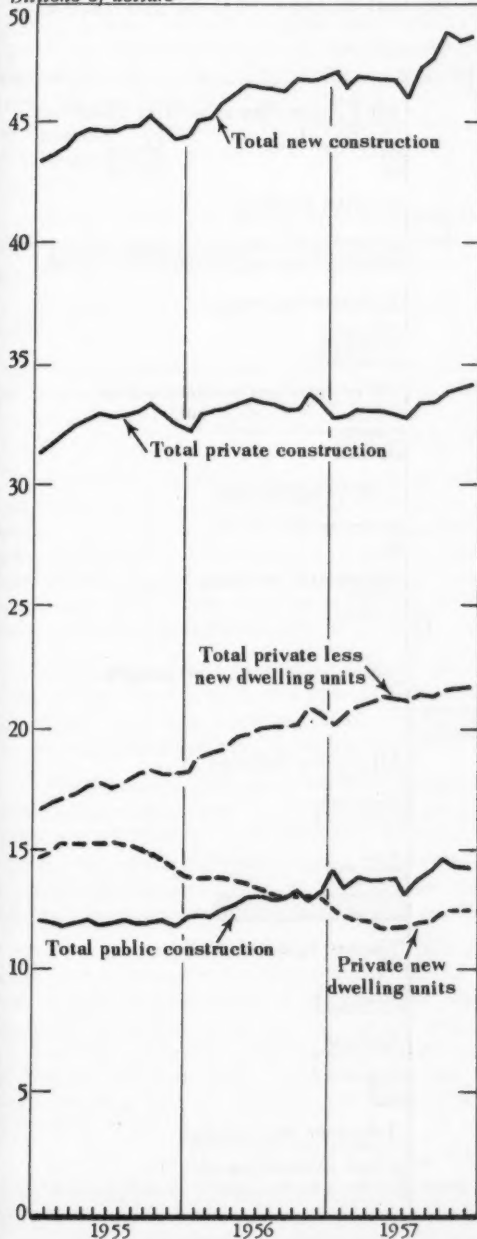
The major share of the 1957 increase in industrial construction was for plants producing non-durable goods. More than half of last year's rise in outlays for such facilities resulted from advancement of the long-range expansion programs of the petroleum and chemical industries. The continued

Chart 1.

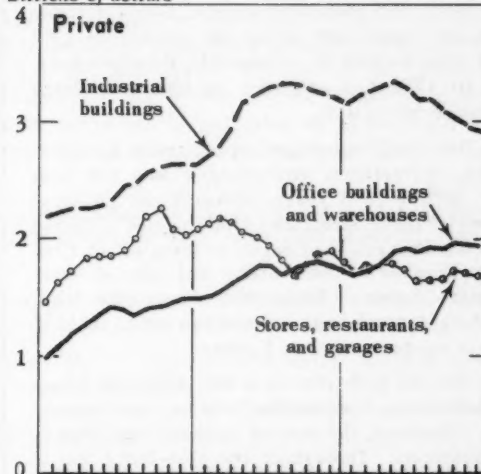
New Construction

Expenditures for Selected Types
Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rates

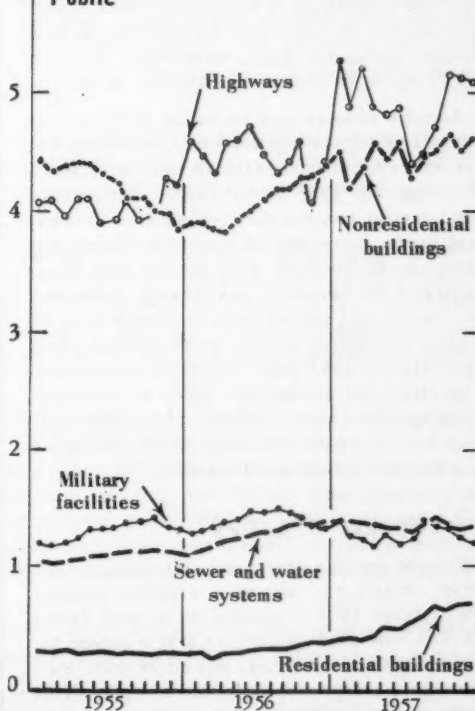
Billions of dollars



Billions of dollars



Public



Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

recordbreaking production of plastics and research on new fuels were among the stimulating influences behind plant expansion in this sector.

Plant expansion in the durable-goods industries was largely among producers of steel, machinery, and nonferrous metals. Gains in these industries more than offset the decline in 1957 plant construction by automobile manufacturers, who in 1956 had achieved an unusually large volume of expansion.

The 1957 drop in expenditures for new stores, restaurants, and garages was the first such decline in 5 years, although the physical volume of these structures (dollar value adjusted for price changes) had begun to level off in 1956 partly because of the scarcity and cost of construction money. There were fewer new large shopping centers built in suburban areas in 1957 than in the previous 2 or 3 years.

For the fifth year in a row, office building and warehouse construction rose to a new record high. However, the rate of increase had slowed significantly. Throughout the post-World War II period, this type of business facility was spurred by the unprecedented rise in general business activity and a shortage of first-class office space in large cities. In addition, the building of new warehouse facilities was stimulated by the growth of business centers in outlying areas.

Activity rose to new peaks in 1957 for all other types of private nonresidential building, except private educational building, which declined a little from the 1956 record high. Outlays for private hospital construction, stimulated by Federal-aid funds, increased by more than 50 percent to above the \$0.5-billion mark for the first time. Expenditures for churches and related structures and for social and recreational buildings rose by more than 10 percent to new peak levels. With the exception of 1952 when materials restrictions were in effect for nondefense types of construction, outlays for church facilities have been expanding for 14 years, reaching \$868 million in 1957, a sevenfold increase from 1947.

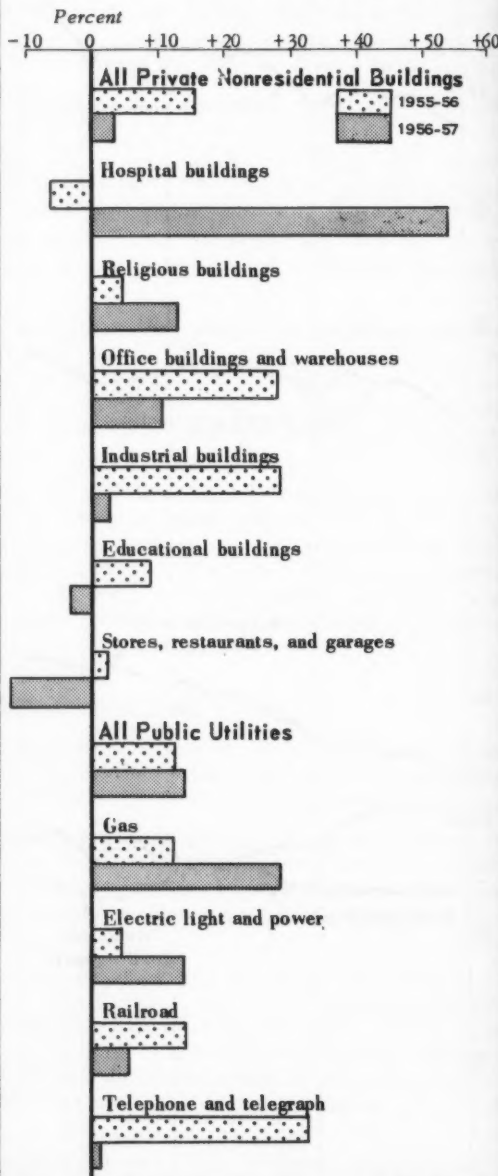
PUBLIC UTILITIES

Private spending for new public utility construction, which has shown a vigorous upward movement since 1954, expanded at an even faster rate in 1957--by \$700 million to a new record total of more than \$5.8 billion. All major utilities--electric, gas, telephone, railroad, and petroleum pipeline--shared in the 14-percent increase over 1956 (chart 2). The largest gain was achieved

Chart 2.

New Private Nonresidential Construction

Expenditures for Selected Types:
Percent Change, 1955-56 and 1956-57



Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

by the gas industry, in which outlays for new construction rose by 29 percent. Record expenditures of \$1.8 billion reflected continued expansion of natural-gas facilities in response to the increasing demand for gas for heat and industrial fuel. Nearly half of the 1957 outlay was for transmission, including facilities to pipe natural gas from the Gulf Coast of Texas to peninsular Florida.

Construction expenditures by electric power companies--totaling \$2.1 billion in 1957--continued to represent more than a third of total private outlays for new public utilities. This large volume of building activity (14 percent higher than 1956) was needed to meet the increasing residential consumption resulting from the use of air conditioners, freezers, and other appliances as well as greater industrial use of electric energy. Conventional fuel-burning plants continued to account for the greater part of new capacity additions (some five-sixths in 1957) with hydro plants providing the remainder. Electric power companies participated in projects for the development and construction of 13 nuclear plants during 1957, and the country's first full-scale civilian atomic power plant began operation near the year's end.

Outlays for new construction in 1957 by the telephone industry exceeded \$1 billion for the second consecutive year and established a record high. The 1-percent advance over 1956, however, was the smallest rate of increase in the past 7 years.

For the third consecutive year, railroad construction rose, although the rate of increase was much smaller than in 1956. The 1957 outlays were the highest achieved in the postwar period.

The petroleum pipeline industry expended a record \$375 million in 1957, which included completion of one of the world's first cross-country, solids-carrying pipelines.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

Stepped-up spending for nearly all types of public work constituted a main area of strength in construction activity in 1957. The 9-percent increase from 1956 in total outlays for public construction projects--to a record \$13.9 billion--represented the sharpest rise since 1952. Largest dollar gains during 1957 were in highway construction and school building. Expenditures for both these categories, and sewerage facilities as well, have risen steadily during the post-World War II period, and all three reached new peaks both in dollar outlay and in physical volume. The same upward trend was shown by water facilities construction until 1957, when it leveled off.

Although outlays expanded at both the Federal and the State and local levels last year, 60 percent of the overall \$1.1-billion gain from 1956 was in Federal money--most of it in Federal grants-in-aid for highways. However, State and local funds continued to account for the bulk of public construction activity--roughly 70 percent in each of the years during the 1955-57 period.

The 8-percent increase in highway construction during 1957, to a record high of \$4.8 billion, was in large-scale operations on the new interstate highway system (following enactment of the Federal-Aid Highway and Highway Revenue Acts of 1956), plus further sizable increases in the continuing and regular Federal-aid highway program. However, the amount of State and local funds expended for highway work declined in 1957 for the first time in the post-World War II period, because of a decline in toll-road construction from the peak levels of 1956.

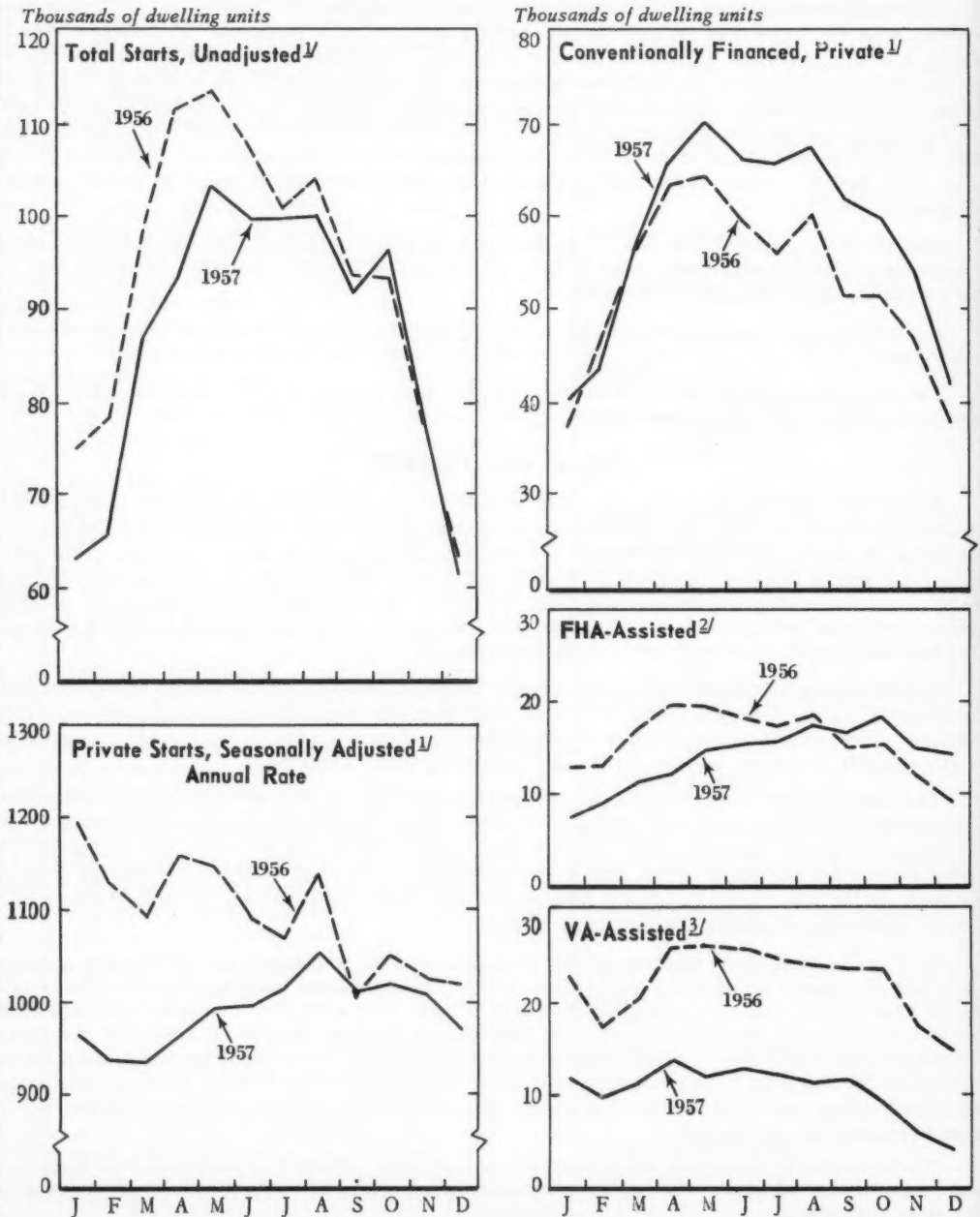
As a result of further efforts to provide essential community services to new housing developments and continually growing suburbs, public outlays for educational building rose 11 percent last year to \$2.8 billion--a rate of increase that was 2-1/2 times the gain shown between 1955 and 1956. Moreover, expenditures for public hospital and institutional building rose for the first time in 6 years. Although all of the 1957 gain in public school construction was from State and local funds, the increase in hospital building was largely in State and local projects receiving Federal financial assistance under the hospital and medical facilities survey and construction program (authorized under title VI of the Public Health Service Act).

The advances in community facilities construction were reflected in bond sales by State and local jurisdictions, which, on the whole, were near record levels in 1957. School bond sales alone were at an alltime high.

A 7-percent rise in expenditures for federally owned construction, the first in 5 years, resulted primarily from increases in conservation and development work and in new housing at military bases

Chart 3.

Nonfarm Housing Starts



Sources: ^{1/}Department of Labor. ^{2/}Housing and Home Finance Agency. ^{3/}Veterans Administration.

on projects popularly referred to as Capehart housing (authorized in the Housing Amendments of 1955). An upturn in conservation and development during 1956 continued in 1957, mainly because work on the St. Lawrence Seaway reached its peak, and the Army Engineers expanded operations on numerous small- and medium-size navigation and flood control projects. In addition, the Bureau of Reclamation increased activity on such large projects as the Glen Canyon Dam (key structure in the Colorado River storage project) and diversion of the Trinity River waters into the Sacramento River.

There were also increases in direct Federal spending for hospitals and for Government administrative building. Military facilities construction--at a postwar peak in 1956--declined 9 percent in 1957, chiefly reflecting decreased outlays at Army and Air Force bases. Work put in place at Navy installations and at the Air Force Academy increased over the year.

HOUSING

National Summary

The downtrend in expenditures for new private dwelling units, which began in 1955, was reversed in mid-1957, when monthly outlays (seasonally adjusted) began a mild but steady rise. For the year as a whole, however, private new housing activity dropped 10 percent, about the same as between 1955 and 1956. Meanwhile, the value of additions and alterations to existing residences continued to climb to new record levels, as it had since 1951.

The number of new private dwelling units started, as well as the value of construction performed on them, declined 10 percent in 1957--to about 990,000. This was the first time in 8 years that private housing starts fell below the million mark. The drop was partially offset by a rise in public housing (to almost 50,000 units), bringing the total of private and public dwelling units started in 1957 to about 1,040,000--7 percent below the 1956 figure, and the lowest total since 1949.

The decline in private homebuilding in 1957, as in 1956, was centered in homes financed with Government-backed mortgages (chart 3). In an attempt to stimulate this type of homebuilding, a number of steps were taken both in 1956 and 1957. Among the more important were increased authorizations to expand both the secondary market operations and the special assistance programs of the Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA); the lengthening of maximum maturity schedules to the statutory limit of 30 years for both Federal Housing Administration (FHA) and Veterans Administration (VA) underwritten loans early in 1956; and the increased maximum interest rates on FHA-insured loans effective in December 1956 (from 4-1/2 to 5 percent) and again in August 1957 (to 5-1/4 percent). Under the Housing Act of 1957, FHA downpayment requirements were reduced to the lowest levels in their history.

Although the new FHA interest rates effective in 1957 were more nearly in line with the current money market, an accompanying limitation on the discounts that could be imposed on Government-assisted mortgages (although also designed to follow the market) had the general effect of impeding to some degree the expected stimulus to lending. This was especially evident while credit demands from business sources were still very heavy. Also, as long as credit conditions remained tight, liberalization in downpayment and amortization schedules had little effect on housing volume, since lenders' requirements usually exceeded the authorized limits.

By the fall of 1957, however, there were definite signs of credit easing. Business loans were dropping in volume, and interest rates on both long-term and short-term borrowing declined in the closing weeks of the year, speeded by the reduction in the discount rate to member banks made by the Federal Reserve System in mid-November. Even earlier, beginning in the summer, there was a marked rise over 1956 levels in applications for FHA-insured mortgages on new 1- to 4-family homes to be started in later months.

Thus, private housing starts were stabilized at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of about a million permanent nonfarm units beginning in May, after falling to an 8-year low of 943,000 during the first quarter. This reflected continued strength in the conventionally financed housing market, as well as improvement in the FHA-assisted segment (chart 3).

Over the year, the number of units started with conventional financing (including a small number without mortgages) rose about 10 percent, and accounted for about 7 out of every 10 dwellings begun in 1957. FHA-assisted starts dropped about 11 percent, and represented about the same proportion

of the private total in 1957 as in 1956--17 percent. Starts under the VA program fell by about half, to about 13 percent of the private total, from 25 percent in 1956.

The decline in private homebuilding in 1957 did not extend to rental-type dwellings. Units in new duplex and apartment houses increased about 32 percent in 1957, to the highest volume since 1950, when rental housing was stimulated under the liberal credit provisions of section 608 of the National Housing Act. Much of the upturn in 1957 undoubtedly stemmed from the shortage of rental-type housing. New rental housing construction declined almost continuously between 1950 and 1956. Vacancy rates in rental units, which had risen in 1955 and remained steady in 1956, edged off in 1957. A further influence has been the steady rise in rents in the post-World War II period, which, although not out of line with the rise in other housing costs (chart 4), undoubtedly made rental housing more attractive to investors. Both conventional and FHA-assisted financing contributed to the increased construction of multifamily housing last year. An increasing number of investors in 1957 availed themselves of the liberalized provisions for rental housing under the Housing Acts of 1956 and 1957--including higher loan-to-value ratios and larger mortgage ceilings. A large part of the rise in the FHA segment was for new apartments in urban renewal areas, as part of community slum clearance and rehabilitation programs.

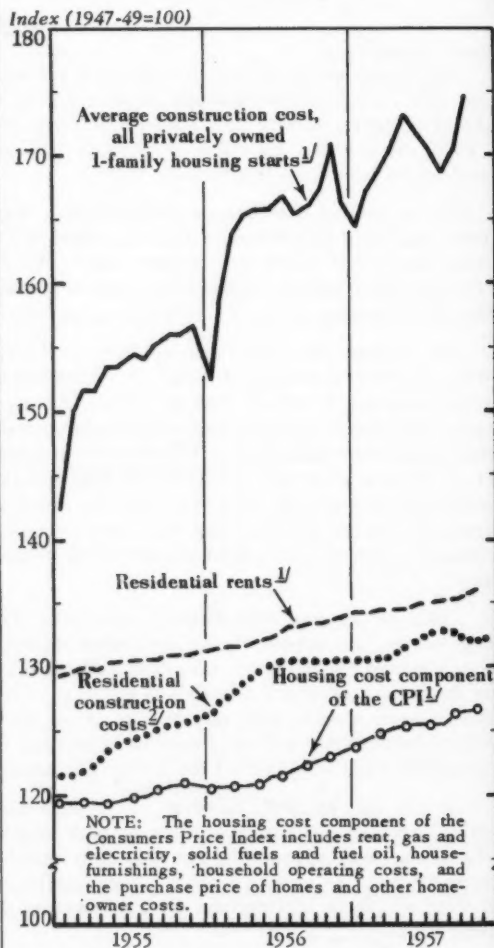
The credit stringency which existed during most of 1957 fostered continuation of the tendency noted in 1956 for an increasing proportion of single-family sales-type housing to be built in the higher-price category, since the purchasers who could qualify for loans wanted and could afford spaciousness and other quality features. However, this tendency appeared to be less marked in 1957 than in the 1954-56 period, according to various available measures. For example, the rise in the average construction cost of all private 1-family houses started between 1956 and 1957 (3 percent) was more nearly in line with the rise in the index of construction costs for residences (2 percent, according to the E. H. Boeckh and Associates) than it had been for several years past. During 1955-56, the increase in the cost of the houses being built substantially exceeded the rise in basic construction costs.¹ Vacant houses available for sale continued at about 0.5 percent of the inventory in 1957, the same as in 1955-56 and in 1950 when the housing shortage was still acute.

Although the number of publicly owned units put under construction more than doubled between 1956 and 1957, the 49,800 units in such projects accounted for only 5 percent of the 1957 housing total.

¹ See also Survey of the National Association of Home Builders, Builders' Economic Council, May 1957, p. 3.

Chart 4.

Housing Costs Selected Measures



Sources: ^{1/}Department of Labor.
^{2/}E. H. Boeckh & Associates.

The gain over the year was preponderantly in federally owned units (mostly 1-family houses) in Capehart projects at military bases. Activity under the federally aided housing program for low-income families also expanded during 1957.

Area Trends

The South was the only region to show any upturn in housing in 1957. Private housing barely maintained its 1956 level in this region, however. Practically all of the gain resulted from the increased volume of Capehart housing, more than three-fifths of which was concentrated around military installations in the South. Though continuing to decline, housing starts declined less in the West than in the two northern regions. In 1957, the South accounted for a third of all new housing started, compared with about a fourth in the North Central and West, and a fifth in the Northeast.

The decrease in nonfarm housing starts over the year was confined to the metropolitan areas, reflecting the sharp curtailment of FHA and VA activity which tended to be concentrated around the larger population centers. Housing activity in nonmetropolitan areas rose slightly in 1957, partly because of the Capehart projects which were started in these areas. By 1957, the share of the new housing located in metropolitan areas had declined to about two-thirds, compared with almost three-fourths in 1954 and 1955.

Despite the downtrend in metropolitan areas nationally, a few large centers experienced substantial increases in housing starts in 1957—including Baltimore, Birmingham, Miami, Phoenix, San Diego, and Seattle. Part of the rise in homebuilding in these metropolitan areas resulted from important gains in apartment building. Sizable increases in new apartments occurred also in a number of other areas where housing activity as a whole declined—notably Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and San Francisco.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OUTPUT

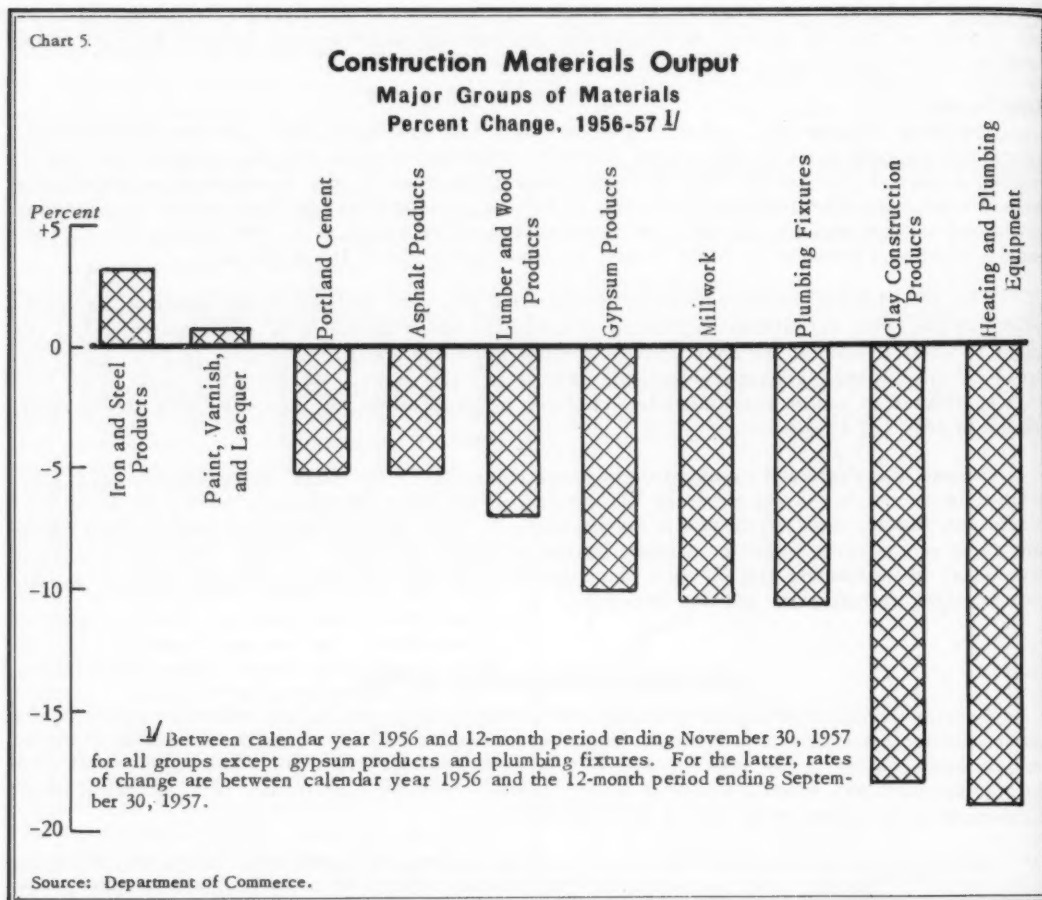
Despite a record level of construction activity during 1957 many of the industries producing the major construction materials (especially those for residential building) experienced a drop in output and, in some instances, the declines from 1956 were substantial (chart 5). The margin between output and capacity was widened further in some industries because capacity had been increased by the completion of new plants begun during 1955 and 1956.

Shipments of a number of steel products which are important to construction work provided a major exception to the general downtrend because of the relative strength of heavy engineering construction in 1957. For example, line-pipe shipments were up about one-fourth over 1956; steel-piling shipments rose more than one-third; rails, nearly 10 percent; and fabricated structural steel, about 15 percent. However, shipments of galvanized sheets were about 15 percent below 1956 levels, and nail shipments were 15 to 20 percent lower. Significantly (because of its implications for 1958 construction), fabricated structural steel bookings in 1957 were off by more than 20 percent from the previous year.

In the generally declining 1957 market for lumber and wood products, Douglas fir plywood and hardboard showed gains over 1956. Softwood lumber production dropped about 10 percent below the previous year; hardwood flooring output, nearly 20 percent; and insulation board, about 12 percent. Most millwork items (doors, sash, and frames) also fell significantly below their 1956 production levels.

Portland cement, for which productive capacity was greatly increased in recent years, showed a drop in production from the preceding year for the first time since 1944, despite a substantial rise in highway construction. Except for asphalt and tar-saturated felts, the asphalt roofing and siding products group followed the general downtrend in building materials production. The output of brick and other clay products, heating equipment, plumbing fixtures, and gypsum products—items dependent largely upon new residential construction—dropped sharply below their 1955 and 1956 levels.

The only materials shortage reported during the year was a temporary lack of cement resulting from work stoppages among a substantial number of producers during June and July. Throughout the year, however, producers' stocks were well above 1956 levels.



COSTS

Construction costs continued to rise in 1957, but the increase--an average of about 4 percent on virtually all types of work--was not as sharp as in 1956. Costs climbed steadily during the first half of 1957, reaching a record level in July about 38 percent above the 1947-49 average, and then remained stable during the rest of the year.

Although most major construction categories showed an increase in costs of 5 percent or more between 1956 and 1957, the average rise for all types was less than that because the least amount of gain (2 percent) was in residential building, which comprises the largest segment of total construction. The greatest cost rise (7 percent) was in electric light and power facilities construction (chart 6).

The materials component of construction costs, as measured by the overall index of wholesale prices of building materials, remained almost unchanged throughout 1957, reflecting counterbalancing price trends of the various commodities represented in the index (chart 7). A continued downward trend in prices of materials used principally in residential construction was about offset by an upward movement in prices of other materials.

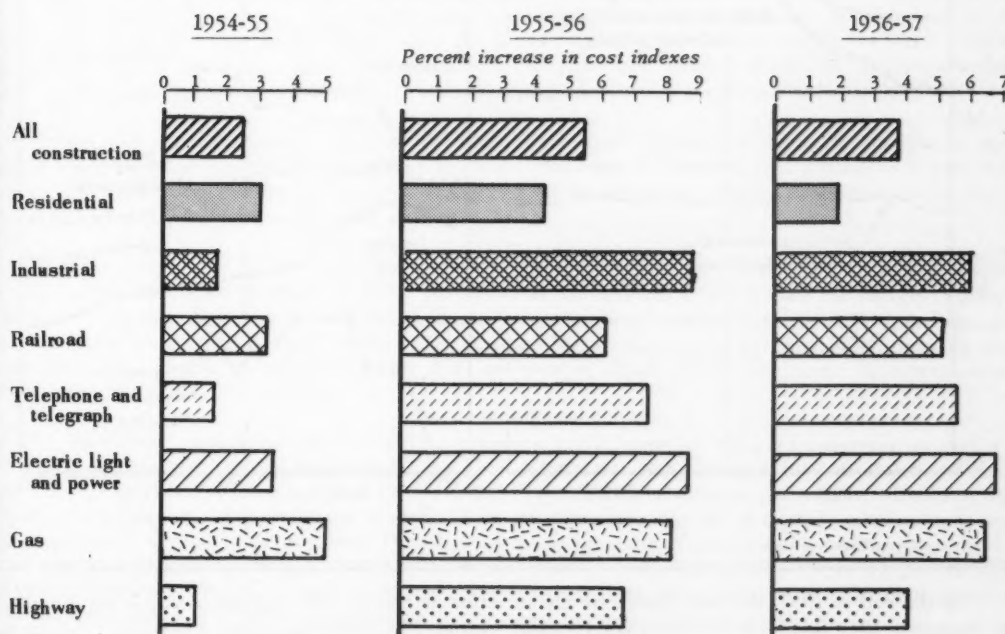
From January through July, building material prices as a whole increased about 0.7 percent, primarily as a result of rising prices for steel products, cement, and asphalt roofing. The increase in asphalt roofing prices reflected both seasonal influences and increases in freight rates and costs of raw material and labor.

Cement prices, which rose during the first part of the year because of higher fuel and labor costs, held steady from April on, indicating no effects from the mid-year strike in the cement industry. An increase in steel products prices in July, following general wage increases in the basic steel industry, was largely responsible for boosting the overall index to its 1957 peak.

The gradual decline in the index during the remainder of the year, to a point slightly below the December 1956 level, was caused mainly by further price reductions for lumber and copper products. The continued decline in lumber prices reflected a lower rate of housing starts in 1957 than in the preceding 2 years, as well as competition from materials that could be substituted for lumber and wood products in building construction. Prices of copper products were depressed because of oversupply and lower prices for raw copper.

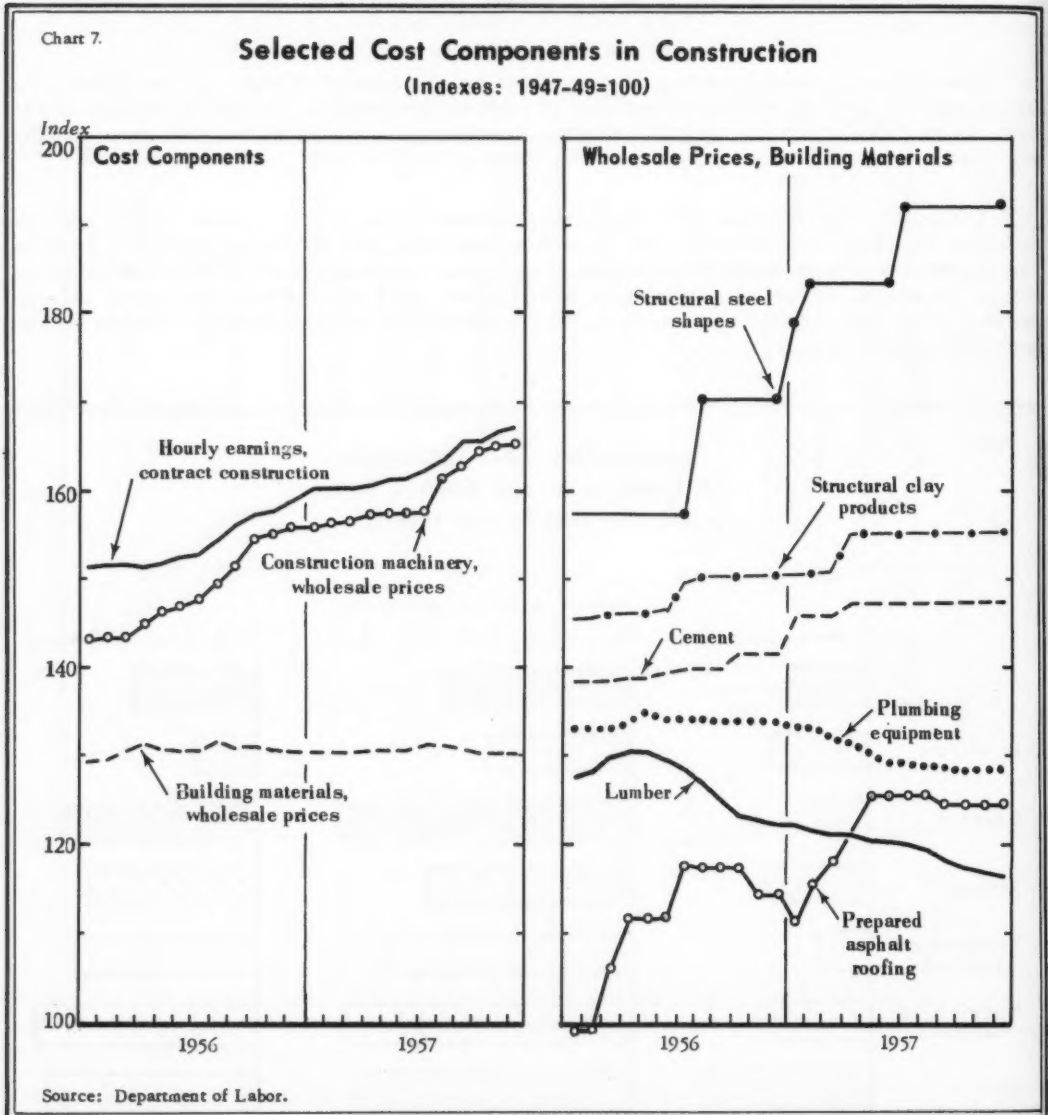
Chart 6.

Construction Cost Increases All Construction and Selected Types 1954-55, 1955-56, and 1956-57



Sources: All construction—Department of Commerce; Residential—E. H. Boeckh & Associates; Industrial—Turner Construction Company; Railroad, and Telephone and Telegraph—Interstate Commerce Commission; Electric light and power (private), and Gas—Whitman, Reardon, and Associates; Highway, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Public Roads. See also, Construction Volume and Costs, 1915-56—Departments of Commerce and Labor, table 13.

Other components of construction costs advanced in 1957. The rise in labor costs, as measured roughly by average hourly earnings in contract construction, was about the same in 1957 as in 1956--approximately 5 percent--with most of the increase occurring in the latter half of the year.



By the end of 1957, the price index for construction machinery and equipment was 6 percent above the December 1956 level. In the previous 12-month period, this index had risen 9 percent. The largest 1957 increase took place in August, following the rise in steel prices and freight rates effective in July. However, the continued upward pressure on prices for construction equipment resulted from mounting activity in heavy construction and highway work, in addition to rising prices for basic materials and labor. Price increases during 1957 for the various segments of the construction machinery and equipment index ranged from nearly 4 percent for mixers and pavers to almost 10 percent for hand-held air tools.

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

Employment by construction contractors averaged about 3,025,000 each month last year, slightly above the previous record set in 1956. The small gain in 1957, compared with an 8-percent advance in 1956, reflected a narrowing of year-to-year gains on most types of contract construction.² For the industry as a whole, employment exceeded 1956 levels until the third quarter, when it averaged about the same in both years. By the fourth quarter, it was nearly 4 percent below the average for the same 1956 months.

The ratio of contract construction employment to total nonagricultural employment was the same in 1957 as in 1956--5.8 percent, partly because of small decreases in the relative importance of other industry divisions.³ Manufacturing employment (seasonally adjusted) has been declining since the beginning of 1957, and there was some moderation in the uptrend in other nonagricultural industries.

Increases from 1956 to 1957 in average monthly employment were reported by all major classes of construction contractors, except those engaged in general building. Gains were relatively greater in heavy engineering than in highway work or in the special trades as a group. Among the special trades, electrical contractors accounted for most of the employment advance over the year.

Regionally, construction employment showed strength in the West South Central States during 1957 and was slightly above 1956 levels in all other sections of the country except the West North Central and Pacific States, where moderate declines occurred. Among the 9 States reporting a monthly average of 100,000 or more construction workers in 1957, only 3 showed declines from 1956--California, Pennsylvania, and Michigan. Increases averaged from 2 to 4 percent in New Jersey, Texas, Florida, and New York; 8 percent in Illinois; and 9 percent in Ohio. Cutbacks in the construction work force from 1956 to 1957 were more frequent in the States and metropolitan areas with relatively smaller numbers of construction workers. This results partly from the broad base of construction activity in large population centers where work has been sustained both by downtown improvements and by construction resulting from suburban expansion.

Weekly earnings of contract construction workers averaged \$106.64 for the year, reaching a new peak in 1957, approximately \$4.81 more than in 1956. The rate of increase was a little less than that between 1955 and 1956, reflecting mainly a decline in the length of the average workweek in the latter part of 1957, particularly in nonbuilding construction.

Increases from 1956 in net spendable earnings (gross earnings less Federal income and social security taxes) averaged slightly more for construction workers (4 percent) than for factory workers (3 percent). In both cases, however, these gains were somewhat smaller than the 1955-56 advances, owing to cutbacks in hours of work during 1957. Most of last year's rise in net spendable earnings was erased by higher prices. Consequently, the 1957 advance in actual purchasing power for construction workers was about half of 1 percent.

Net spendable weekly earnings in 1957 averaged a fourth more for contract construction workers than for production workers in manufacturing. This should not be interpreted as meaning that annual income also was correspondingly higher in construction than in manufacturing industries. Construction jobholders are often at a disadvantage in terms of annual earnings because of the intermittent nature of their employment and its wide seasonal fluctuations, even in years of peak activity. For example, in the 12 months ending in June 1957, the rate at which contract construction employees applied for unemployment insurance benefits (notices of the start of a period of unemployment) was more than three times the application rate for all other industries covered by unemployment insurance.⁴

² See Noncomparability of Statistics on Contract Construction Employment and the Value of New Construction Put in Place (*in Construction Review*, March 1955, pp. 7-9).

³ For a discussion of historical trends, see America's Changing Job Sources (*in Employment and Earnings*, U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, November 1957, pp. iii-x).

⁴ See Characteristics of Unemployment in Contract Construction, 1956-57 (*in Construction Review*, December 1957, pp. 4-8).

The rise in construction workers weekly pay last year resulted primarily from advances in negotiated wage scales. As measured by union wage scales for 6 major trades and building laborers in 100 cities, average wage rates rose about 12.5 cents in the first 9 months of 1957, compared with 11 cents in the same 1956 months. The most frequent increases, accounting for approximately two-fifths of all 1957 wage scale adjustments in the industry, were for either 10 or 15 cents. Advances of 15 cents or more were relatively more numerous in 1957 and comprised 51 percent of all changes in rates, compared with 44 percent in 1956. Reflecting the rise in wage rates, plus some overtime in the early part of 1957, average hourly earnings in contract construction rose 16 cents over the year to about \$2.85.

By mid-1957 (most of the year's contract negotiations regularly occur in the second quarter), about two-thirds of the unionized construction workers were covered by health and welfare plans. This represented a slight increase over the 1956 ratio, and the proportion covered by pension plans expanded from about 20 percent in 1956 to 30 percent in 1957.

The trend toward long-term contracts also continued in 1957 bargaining in the industry. About half a million construction workers are in line for previously negotiated wage advances in 1958, and some of the contracts negotiated last year provide for higher rates not only in 1958 but for subsequent years as well. Of the workers scheduled for pay raises in 1958, 3 out of 8 will receive 15 cents more, and 1 out of 5, 10 cents. The deferred increases becoming effective during 1958 are somewhat larger than those negotiated in most other industries. Typically, however, the deferred increases in these other industries are accompanied by provisions for cost-of-living escalator clauses, which are unusual in construction collective bargaining agreements.

According to very preliminary indications, the number of work stoppages in the construction trades increased from 1956 to 1957, reversing a 3-year downtrend. However, the number of workers and man-days idle in 1957 was well below levels in 1952-54, the post-World War II years in which strike activity in the construction industry was at a peak.

STATISTICAL SERIES

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NOTE: ALL THE STATISTICAL SERIES IN CONSTRUCTION REVIEW
ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION FOR THE LATEST PERIOD SHOWN.

Part A—Construction Put in Place

Table A-1: New Construction Put in Place: Current Month, by Type of Construction

Type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)					Percent change		
	1958	1957		Annual total		Jan. 1958 from--		Year
	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	1957	1956	Dec. 1957	Jan. 1957	1956-57
TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION	3,285	3,667	3,198	47,255	46,060	-10	+3	+3
PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION	2,361	2,705	2,324	33,313	33,242	-13	+2	(1)
Residential buildings (nonfarm).....	1,116	1,345	1,137	16,571	17,632	-17	-2	-6
New dwelling units.....	860	1,005	885	12,160	13,490	-14	-3	-10
Additions and alterations.....	207	290	214	3,912	3,695	-29	-3	+6
Nonhousekeeping.....	49	50	38	499	447	-2	+29	+12
Nonresidential buildings.....	704	764	722	9,138	8,817	-8	-2	+4
Industrial.....	240	248	269	3,162	3,084	-3	-11	+3
Commercial.....	267	305	269	3,570	3,631	-12	-1	-2
Office buildings and warehouses.....	161	172	143	1,864	1,684	-6	+13	+11
Stores, restaurants, and garages.....	106	133	126	1,706	1,947	-20	-16	-12
Other nonresidential buildings.....	197	211	184	2,406	2,102	-7	+7	+14
Religious.....	68	74	67	868	768	-8	+1	+13
Educational.....	42	44	43	519	536	-5	-2	-3
Hospital and institutional.....	47	48	33	505	328	-2	+42	+54
Social and recreational.....	25	27	24	309	275	-7	+4	+12
Miscellaneous.....	15	18	17	205	195	-17	-12	+5
Farm construction.....	101	100	97	1,590	1,560	+1	+4	+2
Public utilities.....	428	483	357	5,830	5,113	-11	+20	+14
Railroad.....	31	35	32	450	427	-11	-3	+5
Telephone and telegraph.....	86	86	75	1,080	1,066	0	+15	+1
Other public utilities.....	311	362	250	4,300	3,620	-14	+24	+19
All other private.....	12	13	11	184	120	-8	+9	+53
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	924	962	874	13,942	12,818	-4	+6	+9
Residential buildings.....	58	57	29	510	292	+2	+100	+75
Nonresidential buildings.....	341	342	339	4,481	4,072	(1)	+1	+10
Industrial.....	30	32	44	458	453	-6	-32	+1
Educational.....	228	226	214	2,832	2,549	+1	+7	+11
Hospital and institutional.....	22	24	24	333	298	-8	-8	+12
Administrative and service.....	30	29	30	434	362	+3	0	+20
Other nonresidential buildings.....	31	31	27	424	410	0	+15	+3
Military facilities.....	80	88	93	1,275	1,395	-9	-14	-9
Highways.....	250	275	225	4,840	4,470	-9	+11	+8
Sewer and water systems.....	96	97	100	1,347	1,275	-1	-4	+6
Sewer.....	58	61	56	785	701	-5	+4	+12
Water.....	38	36	44	562	574	+6	-14	-2
Public service enterprises.....	26	25	24	393	384	+4	+8	+2
Conservation and development.....	65	71	57	975	826	-8	+14	+18
All other public.....	8	7	7	121	104	+14	+14	+16

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

¹Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table A-2: New Construction Put in Place: Recent Monthly Trend, by Type of Construction

(Value, in millions of dollars)

Type of construction	1957												1958
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July ¹	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION.	3,198	3,007	3,295	3,657	4,025	4,308	4,361	4,561	4,569	4,495	4,112	3,667	3,285
PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION.....	2,324	2,226	2,405	2,603	2,808	2,971	3,046	3,124	3,100	3,059	2,942	2,705	2,361
Residential bldgs. (nonfarm)	1,137	1,043	1,162	1,301	1,396	1,489	1,547	1,571	1,561	1,535	1,484	1,345	1,116
New dwelling units.....	885	790	870	940	985	1,070	*1,115	1,140	1,140	1,130	1,090	1,005	860
Additions and alterations..	214	217	258	327	374	379	*392	387	374	357	343	290	207
Nonhousekeeping.....	38	36	34	34	37	40	40	44	47	48	51	50	49
Nonresidential buildings.....	722	704	709	713	747	786	778	805	802	806	802	764	704
Industrial.....	269	270	269	271	270	270	262	266	260	256	251	248	240
Commercial.....	269	257	264	263	287	309	311	319	322	332	332	305	267
Office buildings													
and warehouses.....	143	135	133	135	146	153	156	167	168	177	179	172	161
Stores, restaurants,													
and garages.....	126	122	131	128	141	156	155	152	154	155	153	133	106
Other nonresidential bldgs.	184	177	176	179	190	207	205	220	220	218	219	211	197
Religious.....	67	65	63	64	68	73	75	80	81	80	78	74	68
Educational.....	43	41	40	39	40	43	42	47	47	47	46	44	42
Hospital & institutional..	33	34	36	38	40	43	41	47	48	48	49	48	47
Social and recreational..	24	23	23	23	24	26	27	29	28	27	28	27	25
Miscellaneous.....	17	14	14	15	18	22	20	17	16	16	18	18	15
Farm construction.....	97	102	112	126	146	159	169	173	159	133	114	100	101
Public utilities.....	357	365	409	448	501	518	535	556	560	570	528	483	428
Railroad.....	32	31	35	37	38	40	41	41	41	42	37	35	31
Telephone and telegraph...	75	86	94	94	101	90	95	89	87	97	86	86	86
Other public utilities.....	250	248	280	317	362	388	399	426	432	431	405	362	311
All other private.....	11	12	13	15	18	19	17	19	18	15	14	13	12
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION.....	874	781	890	1,054	1,217	1,337	1,315	1,437	1,469	1,436	1,170	962	924
Residential buildings.....	29	31	30	34	38	40	**40	48	53	54	56	57	58
Nonresidential buildings.....	339	302	345	375	383	406	389	414	416	406	364	342	341
Industrial.....	44	37	41	42	42	43	**36	38	35	35	33	32	30
Educational.....	214	191	215	233	233	254	249	259	261	262	235	226	228
Hospital and institutional..	24	23	27	31	33	32	28	29	30	27	25	24	22
Administrative & service...	30	27	32	36	38	39	38	44	46	41	34	29	30
Other nonresidential bldgs.	27	24	30	33	37	38	38	44	44	41	37	31	31
Military facilities.....	93	80	84	89	103	110	**117	138	134	132	107	88	80
Highways.....	225	195	230	330	445	520	**505	550	580	575	410	275	250
Sewer and water systems.....	100	93	105	113	117	121	120	129	127	118	107	97	96
Sewer.....	56	53	59	63	64	67	68	77	77	73	67	61	58
Water.....	44	40	46	50	53	54	52	52	50	45	40	36	38
Public service enterprises....	24	21	26	30	35	38	38	43	44	38	31	25	26
Conservation & development..	57	53	61	72	83	89	**94	103	104	102	86	71	65
All other public.....	7	6	9	11	13	13	12	12	11	11	9	7	8

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor. ¹ Data for individual types of construction were adjusted specifically for effect of cement shortages in July 1957, except where noted. * Not adjusted for effect of cement shortages. ** Based chiefly on actual project progress reports which reflect all current influences on construction activity for the types of work shown. (State and locally owned highway data were adjusted on the basis of findings from the federally aided portion.)

COMPOSITION OF REGIONS AND GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS

NORTHEAST

1. New England
 - Connecticut
 - Maine
 - Massachusetts
 - New Hampshire
 - Rhode Island
 - Vermont
2. Middle Atlantic
 - New Jersey
 - New York
 - Pennsylvania

NORTH CENTRAL

3. E. N. Central
 - Illinois
 - Indiana
 - Michigan
 - Ohio
 - Wisconsin
4. W. N. Central
 - Iowa
 - Kansas
 - Minnesota
 - Missouri
 - Nebraska
 - North Dakota
 - South Dakota

SOUTH

5. S. Atlantic
 - Delaware
 - Dist. of Col.
 - Florida
 - Georgia
 - Maryland
 - N. Carolina
 - S. Carolina
 - Virginia
 - W. Virginia
6. E. S. Central
 - Alabama
 - Kentucky
 - Mississippi
 - Tennessee
7. W. S. Central
 - Arkansas
 - Louisiana
 - Oklahoma
 - Texas

WEST

8. Mountain
 - Arizona
 - Colorado
 - Idaho
 - Montana
 - Nevada
 - New Mexico
 - Utah
 - Wyoming
9. Pacific
 - California
 - Oregon
 - Washington

NONFARM POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN 1950

NORTHEAST—29.5 percent.

NORTH-CENTRAL—29.0 percent.

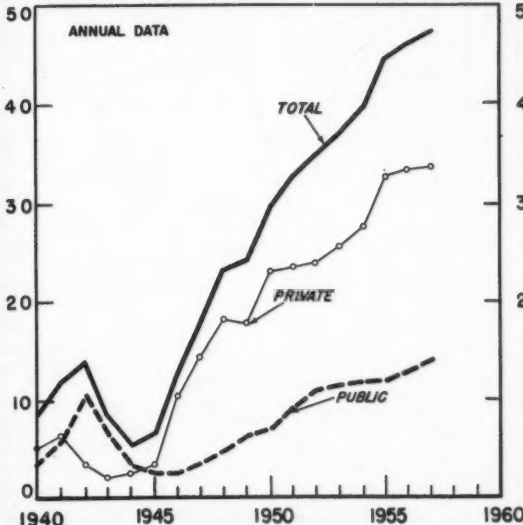
SOUTH—27.7 percent.

WEST—13.8 percent.

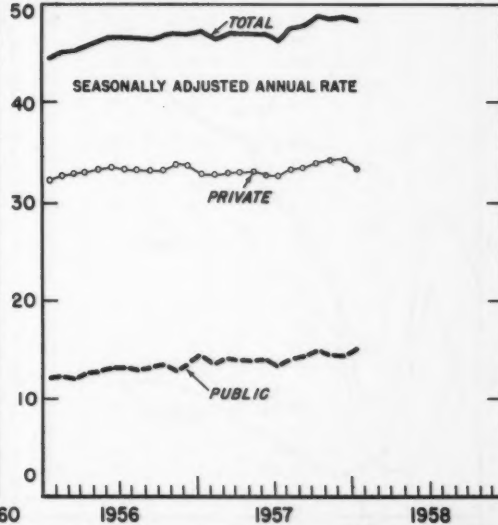
Chart I.

New Construction Put in Place

Billions of Dollars



Billions of Dollars



SOURCE: DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW C.D. 52-10-A

Table A-3: New Construction Put in Place: Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate, by Type of Construction

(Value, in millions of dollars)

Type of construction	Seasonally adjusted annual rate							Annual total	
	1957						1958	1956	1957
	Jan.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.		
TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION	47,064	47,304	47,748	48,768	48,516	48,612	48,468	46,060	47,255
PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION	32,832	33,444	33,480	33,996	34,116	34,248	33,348	33,242	33,313
Residential buildings (nonfarm)	16,932	16,524	16,656	16,968	17,208	17,328	16,584	17,632	16,571
Nonresidential buildings	8,988	9,204	9,084	9,132	9,096	9,060	8,724	8,817	9,138
Industrial	3,168	3,192	3,084	3,012	2,952	2,916	2,820	3,084	3,162
Commercial	3,504	3,564	3,576	3,696	3,672	3,636	3,420	3,631	3,570
Office buildings and warehouses	1,704	1,932	1,920	1,968	1,956	1,944	1,908	1,684	1,864
Stores, restaurants, and garages	1,800	1,632	1,656	1,728	1,716	1,692	1,512	1,947	1,706
Other nonresidential buildings	2,316	2,448	2,424	2,424	2,472	2,508	2,484	2,102	2,406
Farm construction	1,548	1,596	1,596	1,596	1,608	1,596	1,620	1,560	1,590
Public utilities	5,220	5,916	5,940	6,120	6,036	6,096	6,264	5,113	5,830
All other private	144	204	204	180	168	168	156	120	184
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	14,232	13,860	14,268	14,772	14,400	14,364	15,120	12,818	13,942
Residential buildings	360	576	648	624	660	672	720	292	510
Nonresidential buildings	4,500	4,464	4,548	4,656	4,524	4,620	4,548	4,072	4,482
Military facilities	1,380	1,404	1,332	1,332	1,236	1,200	1,188	1,395	1,275
Highways	5,292	4,488	4,704	5,148	5,124	5,076	5,880	4,470	4,840
Sewer and water systems	1,380	1,356	1,416	1,344	1,332	1,344	1,320	1,275	1,347
Sewer	768	816	864	840	828	828	792	701	785
Water	612	540	552	504	504	516	528	574	562
Public service enterprises	372	384	408	420	384	384	396	384	393
Conservation and development	840	1,080	1,104	1,128	1,020	948	948	826	975
All other public	108	108	108	120	120	120	120	104	121

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

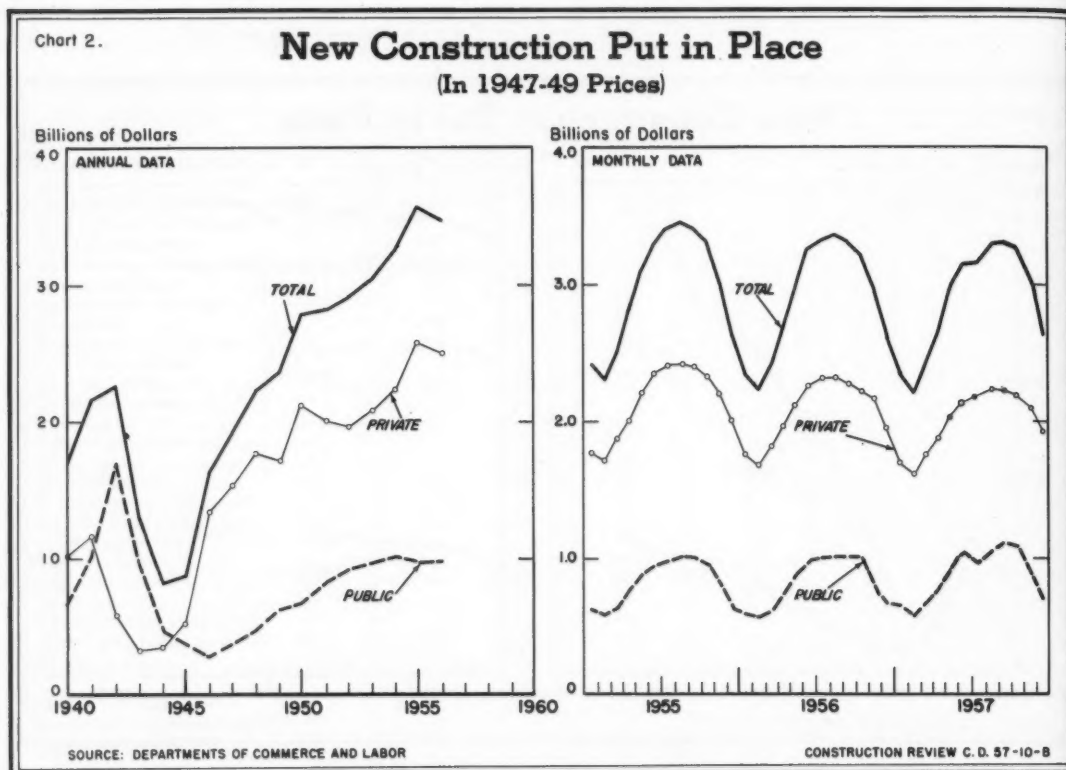


Table A-4: New Construction Put in Place: Value in 1947-49 Prices, by Type of Construction

Type of construction	(Millions of dollars)									
	1956					1957				
	Dec.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION	2,625	3,321	3,269	2,978	2,638	30,459	32,612	35,702	34,898	34,491
PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION	1,957	2,219	2,190	2,109	1,936	20,958	22,526	25,810	24,928	24,071
Residential buildings (nonfarm)	1,044	1,175	1,161	1,123	1,017	11,365	12,777	15,078	13,613	12,563
Nonresidential buildings.....	563	566	567	566	539	4,655	5,073	6,012	6,587	6,512
Industrial	199	182	179	176	173	1,807	1,690	1,946	2,304	2,228
Office buildings and warehouses	117	122	128	130	125	640	789	1,054	1,289	1,370
Stores, restaurants, and garages.....	107	108	108	107	93	857	998	1,472	1,441	1,209
Other nonresidential bldgs.	140	154	152	153	148	1,351	1,596	1,540	1,553	1,705
Farm construction.....	79	125	105	89	79	1,484	1,420	1,350	1,266	1,263
Public utilities	264	342	347	322	293	3,362	3,166	3,257	3,381	3,614
All other private	7	11	10	9	8	92	90	113	81	119
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	668	1,102	1,079	869	702	9,501	10,086	9,892	9,970	10,420
Residential buildings	23	40	41	42	43	459	281	213	225	386
Nonresidential buildings.....	236	291	283	254	239	3,531	3,738	3,291	3,016	3,175
Industrial	33	24	24	23	22	1,434	1,253	588	338	323
Educational	146	183	183	164	158	1,397	1,694	1,888	1,887	2,006
Hospital and institutional	17	21	19	17	17	297	286	249	220	236
Other nonresidential buildings.....	40	63	57	50	42	403	505	566	571	610
Military facilities	74	99	98	79	65	1,105	872	1,086	1,085	950
Highways.....	205	492	488	347	230	2,851	3,689	3,812	3,920	4,102
Sewer and water systems.....	66	81	75	68	62	681	724	769	859	870
Public service enterprises.....	16	26	22	18	14	122	133	157	240	231
Conservation and development	43	66	65	55	45	688	571	497	556	628
All other public	5	7	7	6	4	64	78	67	69	78

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table A-5: New Public Construction Put in Place, by Source of Funds, Ownership, and Type of Construction

Source of funds, ownership, and type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)								Percent change		
	1957					1958	Annual total		Jan. 1958 from--		
	Jan.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	1956	1957	Jan. 1957	Dec. 1957	1956 to 1957
TOTAL PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	874	1,469	1,436	1,170	962	924	12,818	13,942	+ 6	- 4	+ 9
Federal funds.....	261	477	468	386	315	293	3,635	4,307	+12	- 7	+18
Direct Federal.....	200	309	302	258	220	204	2,774	2,958	+ 2	- 7	+ 7
Federal grants-in-aid ¹	61	168	166	128	95	89	861	1,349	+46	- 6	+57
State and local funds.....	613	992	968	784	647	631	9,183	9,635	+ 3	- 2	+ 5
FEDERALLY OWNED	200	309	302	258	220	204	2,774	2,958	+ 2	- 7	+ 7
Residential buildings.....	3	21	22	23	23	24	17	159	(2)	+ 4	(2)
Nonresidential buildings.....	53	50	48	44	41	39	588	589	-26	- 5	(3)
Industrial.....	44	35	35	33	32	30	453	458	+32	- 6	+ 1
Educational.....	1	1	1	1	0	0	8	8	-100	0	0
Hospital.....	3	4	4	3	3	3	37	45	0	0	+22
Administrative and service.....	3	7	6	5	4	4	30	50	+33	0	+67
Other nonresidential.....	2	3	2	2	2	2	60	28	0	0	-53
Military facilities.....	93	134	132	107	88	80	1,395	1,275	-14	- 9	- 9
Highways.....	4	12	10	8	5	4	85	95	0	-20	+12
Conservation and development.....	46	90	88	74	62	56	675	822	+22	-10	+22
All other federally owned.....	1	2	2	2	1	1	14	18	0	0	+29
STATE AND LOCALLY OWNED	674	1,160	1,134	912	742	720	10,044	10,984	+ 7	- 3	+ 9
Residential buildings.....	26	32	32	33	34	34	275	351	+31	0	+28
Nonresidential buildings.....	286	365	358	320	301	302	3,484	3,892	+ 6	(3)	+12
Educational.....	213	260	261	234	226	228	2,541	2,824	+ 7	+ 1	+11
Hospital.....	21	26	23	22	21	19	261	288	-10	-10	+10
Administrative and service.....	27	39	35	29	25	26	332	384	- 4	+ 4	+16
Other nonresidential.....	25	41	39	35	29	29	350	396	+16	0	+13
Highways.....	221	568	565	402	270	246	4,385	4,745	+11	- 9	+ 8
Sewer and water systems.....	100	127	118	107	97	96	1,275	1,347	- 4	- 1	+ 6
Sewer.....	56	77	73	67	61	58	701	785	+ 4	- 5	+12
Water.....	44	50	45	40	36	38	574	562	-14	+ 6	- 2
All other State and locally owned.....	41	67	61	50	40	42	625	649	+ 2	+ 5	+ 4

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

¹ Construction programs currently receiving Federal grants-in-aid cover highways, schools, hospitals, airports, and miscellaneous community facilities. ² Percent increase exceeds 300. ³ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

Part B--Housing

Table B-1: New Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started, by Ownership, Location, and Type of Structure

Period	Total	Ownership		Location ¹		Type of structure			
		Private	Public	Metro-politan	Nonmetro-politan	1-family houses	Units in 2-or-more family structures		
							All	2-4 family	5-or-more family
NUMBER OF NEW DWELLING UNITS (in thousands)									
Year: 1946.....	670.5	662.5	8.0	(2)	(2)	590.0	80.5	(3)	(3)
1947.....	849.0	845.6	3.4	(2)	(2)	740.2	108.8	(3)	(3)
1948.....	931.6	913.5	18.1	(2)	(2)	766.6	165.0	(3)	(3)
1949.....	1,025.1	988.8	36.3	(2)	(2)	794.3	230.8	(3)	(3)
1950.....	1,396.0	1,352.2	43.8	1,021.6	374.4	1,154.1	241.9	(3)	(3)
1951.....	1,091.3	1,020.1	71.2	776.8	314.5	900.1	191.2	(3)	(3)
1952.....	1,127.0	1,068.5	58.5	794.9	332.1	942.5	184.5	(3)	(3)
1953.....	1,103.8	1,068.3	35.5	803.5	300.3	937.8	166.0	(3)	(3)
1954.....	1,220.4	1,201.7	18.7	896.9	323.5	1,077.9	142.5	51.9	90.6
1955.....	1,328.9	1,309.5	19.4	975.8	353.1	1,194.4	134.5	49.2	85.3
1956.....	1,118.1	1,093.9	24.2	779.8	338.3	989.7	128.4	46.4	82.0
1957.....	1,039.2	989.7	49.5	699.3	339.9	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
1956: December.....	63.6	62.9	.7	45.1	18.5	53.4	10.2	3.2	7.0
1957: January.....	63.0	60.1	2.9	44.0	19.0	52.2	10.8	3.5	7.3
February.....	65.8	63.1	2.7	46.6	19.2	54.3	11.5	3.7	7.8
March.....	87.0	79.3	7.7	58.5	28.5	75.7	11.3	4.1	7.2
April.....	93.7	91.4	2.3	63.5	30.2	80.3	13.4	4.6	8.8
May.....	103.0	96.9	6.1	68.2	34.8	86.5	16.5	4.8	11.7
June.....	99.9	94.5	5.4	68.6	31.3	82.7	17.2	5.1	12.1
July.....	99.9	93.9	6.0	63.4	36.5	86.4	13.5	4.2	9.3
August.....	100.0	96.8	3.2	67.7	32.3	83.0	17.0	4.2	12.8
September.....	91.9	90.2	1.7	61.5	30.4	78.2	13.7	3.0	10.7
October.....	95.0	87.0	8.0	62.0	33.0	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
November.....	78.0	75.7	2.3	52.9	25.1	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
December.....	62.0	60.8	1.2	42.4	19.6	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
Percent change									
Year, 1956-57.....	- 7.1	- 9.5	+104.5	-10.3	+ 0.5	--	--	--	--
November-December, 1957.....	-20.5	-19.7	-47.8	-19.8	-21.9	--	--	--	--
December, 1956-57.....	- 2.5	- 3.3	+71.4	- 6.0	+ 5.9	--	--	--	--
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Year: 1946.....	100	98.8	1.2	--	--	88.0	12.0	--	--
1947.....	100	99.6	.4	--	--	87.2	12.8	--	--
1948.....	100	98.1	1.9	--	--	82.3	17.7	--	--
1949.....	100	96.5	3.5	--	--	77.5	22.5	--	--
1950.....	100	96.9	3.1	73.2	26.8	82.7	17.3	--	--
1951.....	100	93.5	6.5	71.2	28.8	82.5	17.5	--	--
1952.....	100	94.8	5.2	70.5	29.5	83.6	16.4	--	--
1953.....	100	96.8	3.2	72.8	27.2	85.0	15.0	--	--
1954.....	100	98.5	1.5	73.5	26.5	88.3	11.7	4.3	7.4
1955.....	100	98.5	1.5	73.4	26.6	89.9	10.1	3.7	6.4
1956.....	100	97.8	2.2	69.7	30.3	88.5	11.5	4.2	7.3
1957.....	100	95.2	4.8	67.3	32.7	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
1956: December.....	100	98.9	1.1	70.9	29.1	84.0	16.0	5.0	11.0
1957: January.....	100	95.4	4.6	69.8	30.2	82.9	17.1	5.6	11.5
February.....	100	95.9	4.1	70.8	29.2	82.5	17.5	5.6	11.9
March.....	100	91.1	8.9	67.2	32.8	87.0	13.0	4.7	8.3
April.....	100	97.5	2.5	67.8	32.2	85.7	14.3	4.9	9.4
May.....	100	94.1	5.9	66.2	33.8	84.0	16.0	4.7	11.3
June.....	100	94.6	5.4	68.7	31.3	82.8	17.2	5.1	12.1
July.....	100	94.0	6.0	63.5	36.5	86.5	13.5	4.2	9.3
August.....	100	96.8	3.2	67.7	32.3	83.0	17.0	4.2	12.8
September.....	100	98.2	1.8	66.9	33.1	85.1	14.9	3.3	11.6
October.....	100	91.6	8.4	65.3	34.7	--	--	--	--
November.....	100	97.1	2.9	67.8	32.2	--	--	--	--
December.....	100	98.1	1.9	68.4	31.6	--	--	--	--

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Data by urban and rural-nonfarm classification for 1920-53 are available upon request.² Annual data

not available before 1950; monthly data not available before January 1953.

³ Not available before January 1954. Tabulations showing the

number of units in 2-family and 3-or-more family structures for 1920-53 are available upon request.

⁴ Not yet available.

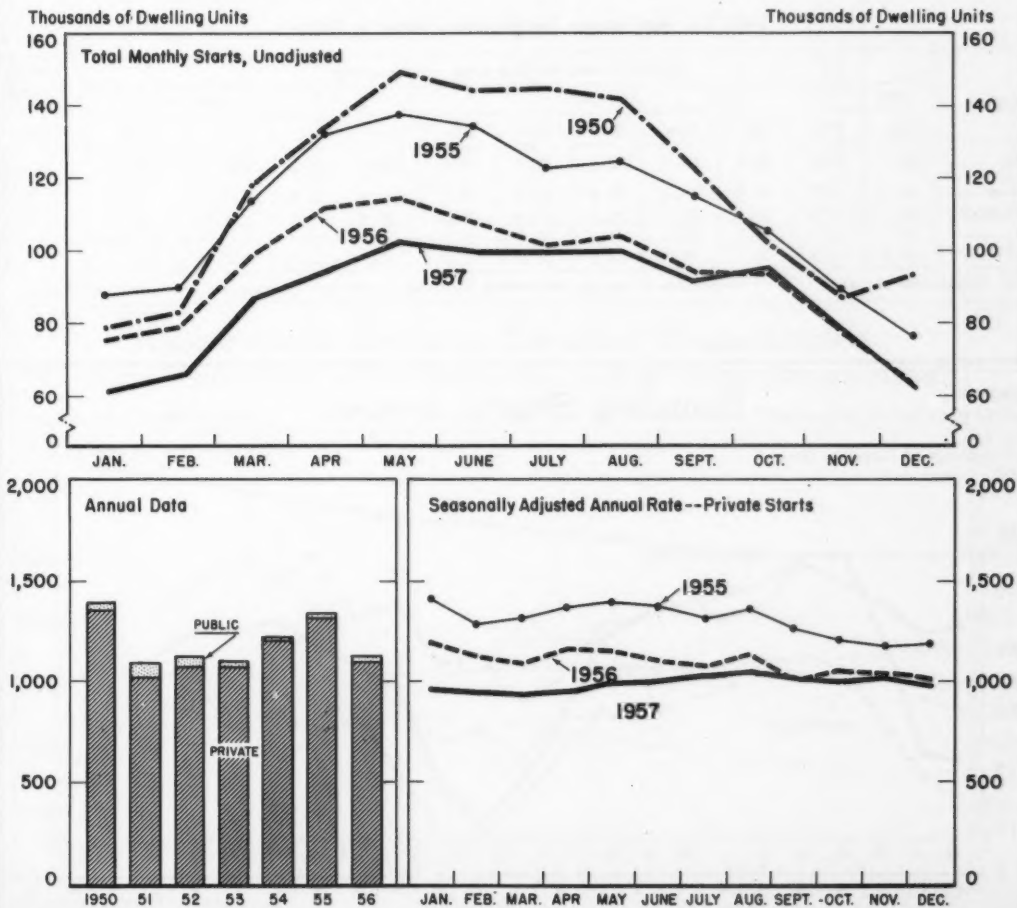
Table B-2: New Private Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started: Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate

Year	Number of new dwelling units (in thousands)											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1946.....	682	709	756	719	698	662	642	638	601	607	612	647
1947.....	694	720	696	710	749	802	847	899	981	1,018	1,013	962
1948.....	938	829	955	1,019	997	990	969	898	862	806	802	807
1949.....	800	796	814	885	905	929	964	1,028	1,094	1,156	1,240	1,250
1950.....	1,306	1,310	1,406	1,390	1,448	1,476	1,460	1,478	1,282	1,149	1,120	1,269
1951.....	1,343	1,156	1,068	990	983	948	925	961	1,052	1,002	976	967
1952.....	1,000	1,086	1,060	1,037	1,039	1,029	1,084	1,075	1,099	1,121	1,100	1,092
1953.....	1,102	1,083	1,122	1,134	1,097	1,082	1,045	1,021	1,024	1,026	1,050	1,032
1954.....	1,044	1,098	1,101	1,116	1,104	1,181	1,225	1,228	1,277	1,274	1,373	1,435
1955.....	1,416	1,286	1,314	1,374	1,398	1,371	1,318	1,346	1,262	1,209	1,179	1,192
1956.....	1,195	1,127	1,094	1,157	1,146	1,091	1,070	1,136	1,008	1,052	1,027	1,020
1957.....	962	935	933	962	994	995	1,015	1,056	1,012	1,000	1,010	970

Source: Department of Labor.

Chart 3.

Housing Starts (UNADJUSTED AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

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Table B-3: New Private 1-Family Houses Started: Average Construction Cost

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual average
AVERAGE CONSTRUCTION COST													
1946.....	\$5,250	\$5,400	\$5,850	\$5,575	\$5,475	\$5,425	\$5,375	\$5,450	\$5,450	\$5,625	\$5,675	\$5,575	\$5,525
1947.....	5,700	5,825	6,150	6,275	6,250	6,450	6,725	6,950	7,025	7,275	7,525	7,650	6,750
1948.....	7,250	7,450	7,550	7,775	7,950	8,050	8,050	8,100	7,900	7,825	7,900	7,900	7,850
1949.....	7,650	7,525	7,450	7,500	7,650	7,675	7,525	7,650	7,725	7,675	7,675	7,625	7,625
1950.....	7,625	7,850	8,225	8,450	8,450	8,750	8,875	9,125	8,900	9,200	9,075	9,200	8,675
1951.....	9,100	9,250	9,175	9,325	9,475	9,475	9,400	9,300	9,450	9,225	9,250	9,125	9,300
1952.....	9,050	9,275	9,350	9,550	9,575	9,675	9,500	9,425	9,600	9,525	9,550	9,525	9,475
1953.....	9,400	9,600	9,800	10,000	9,900	10,000	10,125	10,175	10,200	10,175	9,975	10,000	9,950
1954.....	9,750	9,800	10,075	10,600	10,850	10,750	10,850	10,750	10,675	10,800	10,850	11,075	10,625
1955.....	10,575	11,125	11,250	11,250	11,400	11,400	11,475	11,425	11,525	11,575	11,575	11,625	11,350
1956.....	11,325	11,750	12,150	12,275	12,300	12,300	12,375	12,275	12,325	12,425	12,675	12,350	12,225
1957.....	12,175	12,400	12,525	12,625	12,825	12,750	12,650	12,525	12,650	(1)	(1)	(1)	
Percent change, 1956 to 1957													
	+7.5	+5.5	+3.1	+2.9	+4.3	+3.7	+2.2	+2.0	+2.6	--	--	--	

Source: Department of Labor. ¹ Not yet available.Table B-4: New Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started, by Region¹

Region	Number of new dwelling units (in thousands)											Percent change, 1st 9 mos. 1956-57
	1956	1957								First 9 months		
	Sept.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	1956	1957	
TOTAL	93.9	65.8	87.0	93.7	103.0	99.9	99.9	100.0	91.9	883.5	804.2	- 9.0
Northeast.....	19.2	9.7	14.8	19.9	20.9	19.9	19.2	21.8	16.9	179.8	152.4	-15.2
North Central..	28.1	14.0	22.1	23.7	25.7	27.8	27.0	27.3	25.0	243.5	203.3	-16.5
South.....	28.1	24.6	29.4	28.1	33.7	31.0	33.5	31.0	28.7	262.9	264.8	+ .7
West	18.5	17.5	20.7	22.0	22.7	21.2	20.2	19.9	21.3	197.3	183.7	- 6.9

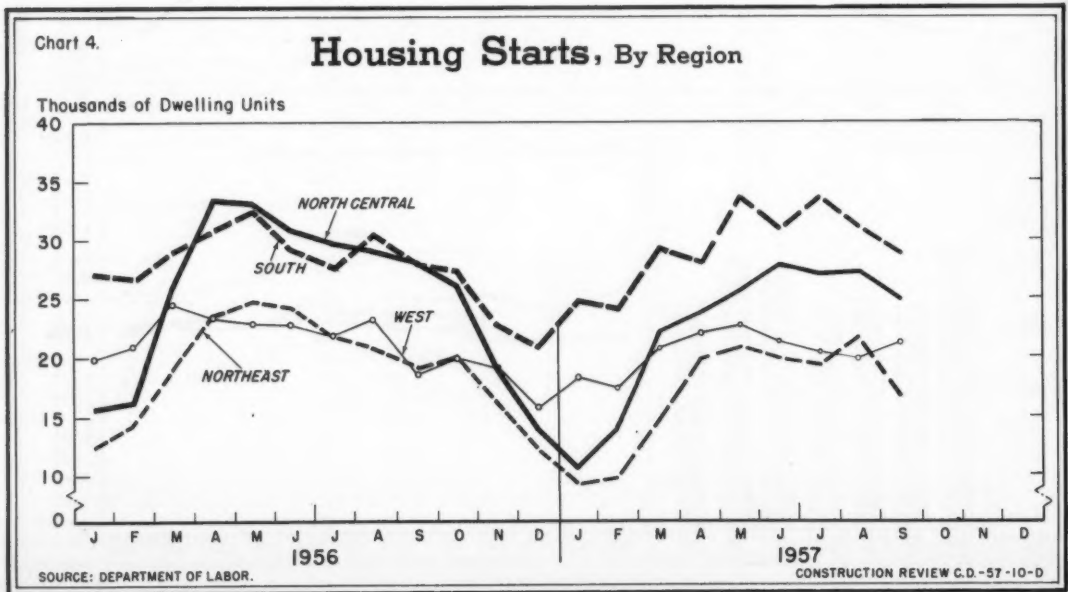
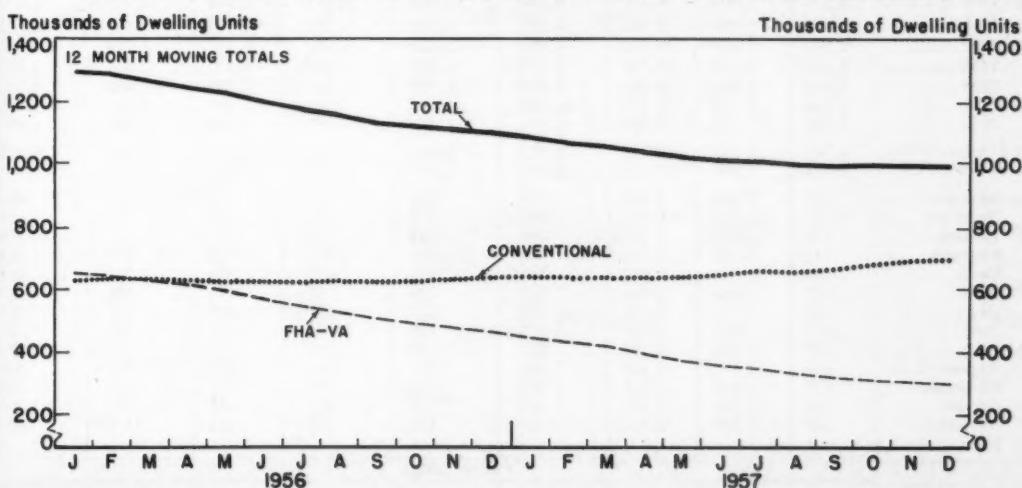
Source: Department of Labor. ¹ Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown below table A-2.

Table B-5: New Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started in Selected States, by Ownership

State	Number of new dwelling units (in thousands)						Percent change in total dwelling units	
	Third quarter, 1957		Second quarter, 1957		Third quarter, 1956		3d qtr. 1957 from—	
	Total	Private	Total	Private	Total	Private	2d qtr. 1957	3d qtr. 1956
UNITED STATES, TOTAL	291.8	280.8	296.6	282.8	298.9	292.9	- 2	- 2
Selected States, total.....	213.9	208.9	224.4	215.9	224.8	219.8	- 5	- 5
As percent of U. S. total	(73.3)	(74.4)	(75.7)	(76.3)	(75.2)	(75.0)	--	--
Arizona.....	4.7	4.6	3.8	3.8	3.3	3.3	+24	+42
California.....	40.5	39.9	46.7	46.3	44.7	44.5	-13	- 9
Colorado.....	3.8	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.5	+15	+ 6
Connecticut.....	5.1	5.0	5.3	4.9	5.3	5.3	- 4	- 4
District of Columbia.....	.3	.3	1.1	.7	.5	.5	-73	-40
Florida.....	22.4	22.0	21.2	21.1	19.8	19.3	+ 6	+13
Illinois.....	14.6	14.6	16.6	16.5	17.5	17.5	-12	-17
Maryland.....	5.3	5.3	7.6	6.4	5.7	5.7	-30	- 7
Massachusetts.....	4.9	4.9	6.2	5.6	6.9	6.6	-21	-29
Michigan.....	14.2	13.2	13.4	13.2	15.3	14.8	+ 6	- 7
New Jersey.....	9.6	9.5	11.0	9.6	11.2	11.2	-13	-14
New York.....	20.3	18.8	20.4	18.7	22.6	20.1	(1)	-10
Ohio.....	16.1	15.6	15.5	15.0	18.4	18.4	+ 4	-13
Oregon.....	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6	2.1	2.1	+13	-14
Pennsylvania.....	13.8	13.7	13.9	13.8	13.0	13.0	- 1	+ 6
Texas.....	17.3	16.9	16.7	16.6	15.8	15.7	+ 4	+ 9
Utah.....	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.8	+19	+ 6
Virginia.....	6.4	6.4	7.2	6.2	7.1	6.5	-11	-10
Washington.....	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.0	+ 7	+12
Wisconsin.....	6.2	6.2	6.9	6.9	6.0	6.0	-10	+ 3

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.Chart 5. New Private Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started
Total, Under FHA or VA Inspection, and All Other (Conventional)

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

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CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table B-6: New Private Dwelling Units: Volume in Successive Stages of FHA and VA Programs

Period	Number (in thousands) of new dwelling units in--								Percent of total private starts under inspection of--	
	FHA applications		VA appraisal requests*	Starts under inspection of--		FHA mortgages insured		VA loans closed*		
	Total	Excluding Capehart ¹		FHA	VA*	Total	Excluding Capehart ¹		FHA	VA*
Year: 1950.....	625.3	625.3	(2)	486.7	(2)	378.7	378.7	209.0	36	15
1951.....	267.1	267.1	164.4	263.5	148.7	235.0	235.0	286.5	26	15
1952.....	323.9	323.8	226.3	279.9	141.3	162.6	162.6	192.2	26	13
1953.....	327.3	327.3	251.4	252.0	156.6	182.5	182.5	202.9	24	15
1954.....	383.3	383.3	535.4	276.3	307.0	150.1	150.1	243.1	23	26
1955.....	314.9	314.9	620.8	276.7	392.9	139.8	139.8	387.6	21	30
1956.....	227.6	219.4	401.5	189.3	270.7	116.2	110.9	313.5	17	25
1957.....	266.1	229.7	159.4	168.4	128.3	118.0	92.6	218.8	17	13
1956: December	12.9	10.9	19.0	9.6	15.0	8.7	7.3	25.0	15	24
1957: January	14.8	13.1	18.9	7.7	12.0	9.7	8.0	30.3	13	20
February	22.0	14.0	20.2	9.3	9.9	10.2	7.3	24.4	15	16
March	22.2	20.1	19.5	11.3	11.4	13.0	7.6	21.8	14	14
April	25.7	20.4	19.4	12.1	13.5	8.7	7.1	20.6	13	15
May	23.3	20.2	16.6	14.9	12.0	10.7	6.7	16.6	15	12
June	22.8	20.1	13.7	15.3	13.0	6.8	6.3	16.2	16	14
July	22.0	21.2	14.0	15.7	12.3	11.0	7.6	15.6	17	13
August.....	28.8	25.6	14.5	17.7	11.6	10.2	8.5	14.6	18	12
September	24.9	22.5	*8.9	16.4	*11.8	6.0	5.9	*17.1	18	*13
October	26.3	21.2	*6.4	18.7	*9.7	12.7	8.6	*16.9	21	*11
November	16.6	16.1	*3.7	15.0	*6.4	9.9	9.9	*13.4	20	*8
December	16.6	15.1	*3.5	14.2	*4.6	9.1	9.1	*11.4	23	*8
Percent change:										
Year, 1956-57.....	+16.9	+ 4.7	-60.3	-11.0	-52.6	+ 1.5	-16.4	-30.2	--	--

Source: Table compiled by Department of Labor from data reported by the Federal Housing Administration (FHFA) and the Veterans Administration. * Beginning with data for October 1957, all VA series are as of the calendar month. Data for September 1957 cover the period August 26th through September 30, and for all previous months, the statistics are as of the 26th through the 25th. ¹ Excludes units under the armed services (Capehart) housing program, which are classified as public and whose inspection while under construction is under the auspices of the Department of Defense. ² Not available.

Table B-7: Nonfarm Mortgage Recordings of \$20,000 or Less: Number and Average Amount, and Total Amount by Type of Lender

Period	Total number (in thousands)	Average amount (dollars)	Total amount (in millions of dollars) recorded by--						
			All lenders	Savings and loan associations	Insurance companies	Commercial banks	Mutual savings banks	Individuals	All other lenders
Year: 1950.....	3,032	5,335	16,179	5,060	1,618	3,365	1,064	2,299	2,774
1951.....	2,878	5,701	16,405	5,295	1,615	3,370	1,013	2,539	2,572
1952.....	3,028	5,950	18,018	6,452	1,420	3,600	1,137	2,758	2,651
1953.....	3,164	6,241	19,747	7,365	1,480	3,680	1,327	2,841	3,055
1954.....	3,458	6,644	22,974	8,312	1,768	4,239	1,501	2,882	4,272
1955.....	3,913	7,279	28,484	10,452	1,932	5,617	1,858	3,362	5,265
1956.....	3,602	7,521	27,088	9,532	1,799	5,458	1,824	3,558	4,917
First 11 mos., 1956 ..	3,345	7,517	25,137	8,872	1,661	5,093	1,675	3,287	4,549
First 11 mos., 1957 ..	3,004	7,456	22,393	8,551	1,347	3,939	1,317	3,294	3,945
1956: November.....	277	7,608	2,108	717	136	409	152	293	401
December.....	257	7,582	1,951	660	138	366	148	270	369
1957: January.....	258	7,541	1,942	659	133	353	117	304	376
February.....	237	7,381	1,749	644	105	308	96	271	325
March.....	264	7,333	1,937	744	115	335	99	293	351
April.....	277	7,390	2,044	798	116	357	110	306	357
May.....	289	7,431	2,144	840	125	374	120	314	371
June.....	274	7,407	2,028	795	118	363	125	290	337
July.....	296	7,456	2,211	852	130	390	142	325	372
August.....	296	7,473	2,208	883	132	378	137	310	368
September.....	272	7,446	2,026	796	124	354	121	288	343
October.....	294	7,563	2,226	855	132	395	131	321	392
November.....	247	7,585	1,877	686	117	333	118	271	352
Percent change									
First 11 mos., 1956-57	-10	- 1	-11	- 4	-19	-23	-21	(1)	-13

Source: Table compiled by Department of Labor from data reported by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

¹ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

(NOTE: Tables B-8 and B-9, Housing Vacancy Rates, are shown quarterly in the March, June, September, and December issues.)

Part C--Building Permits

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Table C-1: Building Permit Activity: Current Summary, by Type of Building Construction

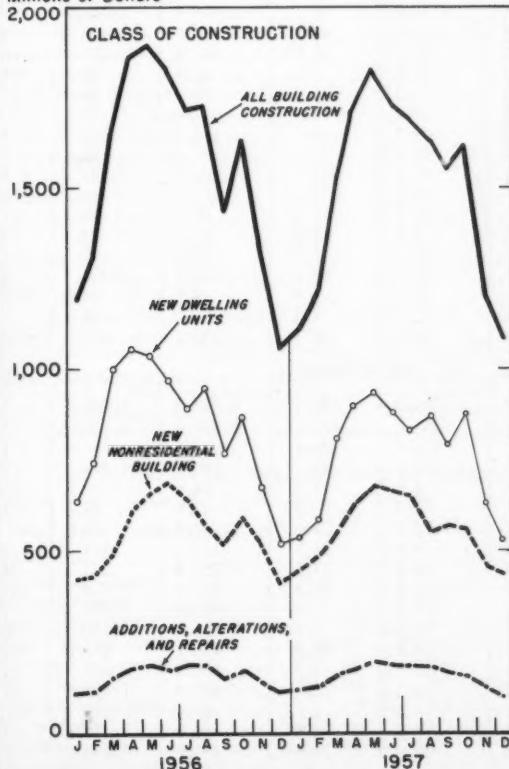
Type of building construction	Valuation (in millions of dollars)						Percent change, Dec. 1956-57
	1957			1956	Year		
	Dec.	Nov.	Oct.	Dec.	1957	1956	
All building construction ¹	1,086.6	1,217.7	1,607.9	1,055.0	17,994.9	18,787.8	+ 3
Private	949.8	1,054.2	1,431.4	927.4	15,903.6	16,903.4	+ 2
Public	136.8	163.4	176.5	127.6	2,091.8	1,884.4	+ 7
New dwelling units ²	529.4	631.8	867.4	521.4	9,177.3	10,149.6	+ 2
Number of new dwelling units	(49,211)	(58,225)	(79,178)	(48,283)	(843,231)	(943,149)	(+ 2)
New nonresidential building	430.1	451.5	560.8	414.8	6,733.4	6,664.5	+ 4
Commercial buildings	149.5	147.3	183.7	141.9	2,153.0	2,184.7	+ 5
Stores and other mercantile buildings	59.8	55.7	82.0	58.6	888.6	1,014.3	+ 2
All other commercial buildings	89.7	91.6	101.7	83.3	1,264.4	1,170.4	+ 8
Community buildings	164.5	188.2	213.8	149.2	2,463.7	2,263.1	+10
Industrial buildings.....	60.8	58.6	91.9	59.3	1,081.4	1,273.3	+ 3
All other nonresidential buildings	55.3	57.5	71.4	64.4	1,035.4	943.3	-14
Additions, alterations, and repairs	105.6	121.2	154.2	109.9	1,900.1	1,831.4	- 4

Source: Department of Labor. ¹ Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building, not shown separately. ² Housekeeping only.

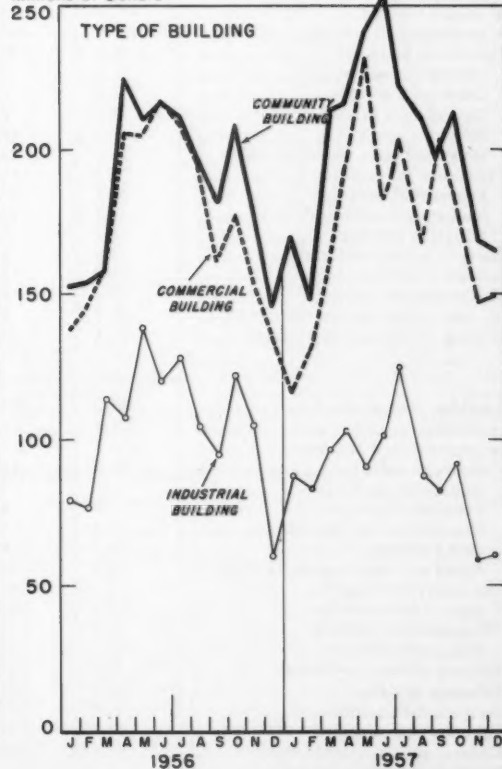
Chart 6

Building Permit Activity

Millions of Dollars



Millions of Dollars



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW C.D. 57-10-E

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table C-2: Building Permit Activity: Valuation, by Type of Building Construction and Region¹

Type of building construction	Valuation (in millions of dollars)						Percent change, 1st 11 months 1956-57
	1956	1957			First 11 months		
	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	1956	1957	
UNITED STATES							
All building construction ²	1,351.3	1,551.7	1,607.9	1,217.7	17,732.8	16,908.3	- 5
New dwelling units ³	678.9	796.9	867.4	631.8	9,628.2	8,647.9	-10
New nonresidential building	532.8	569.2	560.8	451.5	6,249.6	6,303.2	+ 1
Commercial buildings *	162.6	203.4	183.7	147.3	2,042.8	2,003.5	- 2
Amusement buildings *	13.0	10.5	11.6	18.2	110.8	128.2	+16
Commercial garages	4.7	4.9	5.1	2.9	56.6	55.4	- 2
Gasoline and service stations	13.9	14.2	13.0	10.2	154.8	149.1	- 4
Office buildings *	59.7	102.1	72.2	60.3	765.0	842.0	+10
Stores and other mercantile bldgs.	71.2	71.7	82.0	55.7	955.6	828.8	-13
Community buildings *	177.8	204.2	213.8	188.2	2,113.9	2,299.2	+ 9
Educational buildings	121.8	134.3	127.2	93.8	1,327.9	1,369.3	+ 3
Institutional buildings *	25.4	32.0	46.1	60.7	364.0	493.8	+36
Religious buildings	30.7	37.9	40.6	33.8	422.0	436.1	+ 3
Garages, private residential	13.8	24.2	21.9	12.1	195.6	194.0	- 1
Industrial buildings *	115.2	81.7	91.9	58.6	1,214.0	1,020.6	-16
Public utilities buildings *	28.2	34.2	24.6	24.7	300.0	400.4	+33
All other nonresidential buildings *	35.1	21.5	24.9	20.6	383.3	385.6	+ 1
Additions, alterations, and repairs	131.6	169.2	154.2	121.2	1,721.6	1,794.5	+ 4
Northeast							
All building construction ²	295.6	350.8	330.0	261.5	3,810.5	3,562.8	- 7
New dwelling units ³	152.1	158.4	176.8	135.2	2,080.7	1,748.1	-16
New nonresidential building	114.7	147.8	105.0	94.5	1,336.6	1,380.4	+ 3
Commercial buildings *	38.7	70.0	30.5	32.0	447.5	469.1	+ 5
Amusement buildings *	1.8	2.0	3.5	2.8	21.4	28.6	+34
Commercial garages	1.4	1.0	.5	.4	20.0	14.2	-29
Gasoline and service stations	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.1	27.6	27.5	(4)
Office buildings *	19.3	49.5	8.5	14.3	211.0	242.2	+15
Stores and other mercantile bldgs.	13.5	15.1	15.6	12.3	167.4	156.5	- 7
Community buildings *	38.3	45.0	46.8	42.6	500.9	522.2	+ 4
Educational buildings	26.3	27.7	25.0	17.3	313.7	331.2	+ 6
Institutional buildings *	4.8	10.5	13.3	17.5	99.3	106.2	+ 7
Religious buildings	7.2	6.8	8.5	7.8	87.9	84.8	- 4
Garages, private residential	3.4	4.9	4.9	2.9	39.8	39.5	- 1
Industrial buildings *	18.9	12.9	14.7	10.8	232.6	200.2	-14
Public utilities buildings *	2.9	12.1	2.6	3.0	49.9	79.1	+59
All other nonresidential buildings *	12.7	3.0	5.4	3.2	65.8	70.4	+ 7
Additions, alterations, and repairs	27.6	42.5	34.7	28.1	370.3	398.7	+ 8
North Central							
All building construction ²	388.3	480.0	489.3	324.3	5,423.1	4,960.8	- 9
New dwelling units ³	195.1	247.7	253.1	164.6	3,017.6	2,510.9	-17
New nonresidential building	157.5	177.6	193.5	128.4	1,894.5	1,946.9	+ 3
Commercial buildings *	32.1	41.6	43.3	55.1	530.2	499.6	- 6
Amusement buildings *	2.1	3.6	3.9	11.6	34.4	39.8	+16
Commercial garages	.6	2.1	2.0	.3	12.9	16.9	+31
Gasoline and service stations	4.2	4.8	3.9	2.6	47.4	47.5	(4)
Office buildings *	10.9	13.2	9.3	22.9	179.1	174.2	- 3
Stores and other mercantile bldgs.	14.4	18.0	24.3	17.6	256.4	221.1	-14
Community buildings *	53.7	68.5	72.8	38.8	643.8	714.7	+11
Educational buildings	41.3	46.3	45.3	20.2	414.3	406.8	- 2
Institutional buildings *	3.1	9.6	14.5	5.1	93.3	156.3	+68
Religious buildings	9.2	12.6	13.0	13.5	136.2	151.6	+11
Garages, private residential	6.6	14.4	12.1	5.7	106.5	107.7	+ 1
Industrial buildings *	53.7	34.4	46.3	21.6	447.4	403.5	-10
Public utilities buildings *	6.3	13.6	10.3	2.7	97.6	148.1	+52
All other nonresidential buildings *	5.1	5.0	8.6	4.6	69.0	73.3	+ 6
Additions, alterations, and repairs	34.0	47.4	38.9	29.5	480.7	474.3	- 1

See footnotes at end of table.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table C-2: Building Permit Activity: Valuation, by Type of Building Construction and Region ¹--Continued

Type of building construction	Valuation (in millions of dollars)						Percent change, 1st 11 months, 1956-57
	1956	1957				First 11 months	
	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	1956	1957	
	South						
All building construction ²	322.1	381.1	400.0	324.3	4,194.8	4,322.1	+ 3
New dwelling units ³	152.1	199.5	210.4	169.4	2,213.6	2,206.2	(4)
New nonresidential building.....	133.1	137.1	144.0	118.9	1,488.2	1,568.0	+ 5
Commercial buildings*.....	53.8	53.7	63.8	32.5	592.0	598.8	+ 1
Amusement buildings.....	1.4	3.3	2.2	1.8	23.3	32.5	+39
Commercial garages.....	1.5	1.0	2.2	1.6	13.2	11.4	-14
Gasoline and service stations.....	4.5	4.2	4.2	3.3	52.1	47.3	- 9
Office buildings*.....	18.6	21.2	35.7	12.3	209.8	255.5	+22
Stores and other mercantile bldgs. ..	27.9	24.0	19.5	13.6	293.5	252.2	-14
Community buildings*.....	43.0	50.0	54.3	52.7	518.9	593.1	+14
Educational buildings.....	27.4	30.7	30.5	32.3	292.4	328.9	+12
Institutional buildings*.....	7.3	8.7	12.4	12.7	100.7	132.5	+32
Religious buildings.....	8.3	10.6	11.4	7.7	125.8	131.7	+ 5
Garages, private residential.....	1.3	1.9	2.0	1.4	18.1	18.3	+ 1
Industrial buildings*.....	14.1	21.3	12.1	14.0	175.5	186.6	+ 6
Public utilities buildings*.....	15.4	4.5	7.3	14.4	90.5	92.8	+ 3
All other nonresidential buildings*.....	5.5	5.7	4.5	3.8	93.2	78.3	-16
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	34.8	40.6	41.4	32.2	452.5	489.9	+ 8
	West						
All building construction ²	345.2	339.8	388.6	307.6	4,304.4	4,062.6	- 6
New dwelling units ³	179.7	191.3	227.1	162.6	2,316.3	2,182.7	- 6
New nonresidential building.....	127.5	106.8	118.4	109.7	1,530.4	1,407.8	- 8
Commercial buildings*.....	38.0	38.1	46.1	27.7	473.1	435.9	- 8
Amusement buildings.....	7.8	1.7	2.0	2.0	31.6	27.3	-14
Commercial garages.....	1.2	.8	.4	.6	10.5	12.8	+22
Gasoline and service stations.....	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.1	27.6	26.6	- 4
Office buildings*.....	10.9	18.2	18.7	10.8	165.1	170.2	+ 3
Stores and other mercantile bldgs. ..	15.5	14.7	22.5	12.3	238.3	199.1	-16
Community buildings*.....	43.0	40.6	39.8	54.0	450.3	469.1	+ 4
Educational buildings.....	26.8	29.7	26.3	23.9	307.5	302.3	- 2
Institutional buildings*.....	10.2	3.1	5.9	25.4	70.7	98.8	+40
Religious buildings.....	6.0	7.9	7.6	4.7	72.2	67.9	- 6
Garages, private residential.....	2.5	3.0	2.8	2.1	31.3	28.5	- 9
Industrial buildings*.....	28.6	13.2	18.9	12.1	358.4	230.1	-36
Public utilities buildings*.....	3.6	4.0	4.4	4.7	62.0	80.5	+30
All other nonresidential buildings*.....	11.8	7.7	6.4	9.1	155.3	163.7	+ 5
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	35.2	38.7	39.1	31.3	418.1	431.4	+ 3

Source: Department of Labor. ¹ Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown below table A-2. ² Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building, not shown separately. ³ Housekeeping only. ⁴ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent. * Includes some buildings previously classified under "public buildings," which will no longer be shown separately. Distribution of public buildings to other categories (e.g., office, industrial, institutional) was begun with data for January 1956. See Note on page 17 of October 1957 issue.

Table C-3: Building Permit Activity: Number of Nonresidential Buildings, by Type of Building

Type of construction	1956	1957							
	Nov.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Amusement buildings *.....	186	312	304	260	276	199	185	218	165
Commercial garages.....	212	191	163	177	97	126	125	127	98
Educational buildings.....	399	443	445	420	453	383	375	388	307
Garages, private residential.....	14,665	20,955	24,063	21,864	23,354	24,658	25,717	22,505	12,150
Gasoline and service stations.....	879	905	958	846	864	856	851	819	625
Industrial buildings.....	1,309	1,282	1,234	1,151	1,364	1,163	1,302	1,355	960
Institutional buildings *.....	79	114	99	142	127	110	110	124	95
Office buildings *.....	588	791	729	627	707	707	638	725	545
Religious buildings.....	419	562	592	514	634	567	574	552	410
Stores and other mercantile buildings.....	2,303	2,758	2,771	2,591	2,641	2,192	2,230	2,187	1,790

Source: Department of Labor. * See asterisk note to table C-2 above.

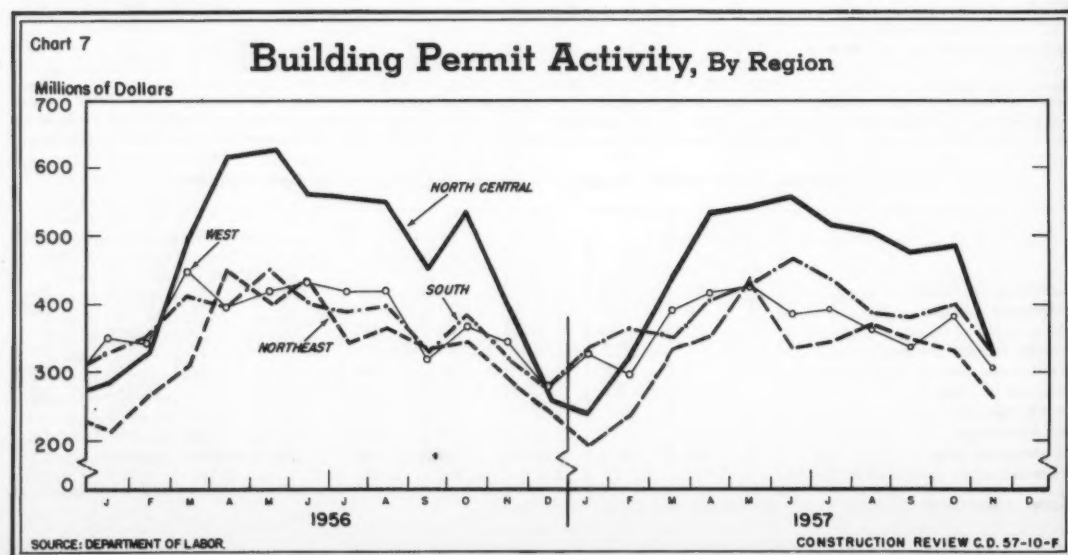
CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table C-4: Building Permit Activity: Valuation and Number of New Dwelling Units, by Type of Structure, Public-Private Ownership, and Region ¹

(Housekeeping units only)

Ownership and type of structure	Valuation (in millions of dollars)					Number of dwelling units				
	1956		1957		First 11 months	1956		1957		First 11 months
	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	1956	1957	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	1956	1957
UNITED STATES										
All new dwelling units..	678.9	867.4	631.8	9,628.2	8,647.9	62,093	79,178	58,225	894,866	794,020
Privately owned	672.0	825.0	600.5	9,456.4	8,403.0	61,416	74,803	54,985	877,482	770,319
1-family	612.7	730.6	535.0	8,766.7	7,467.5	52,565	60,545	44,935	772,676	630,236
2-4 family	23.0	31.8	25.2	285.5	314.2	3,591	4,603	3,627	42,037	45,667
5-or-more family	36.3	62.5	40.3	404.3	621.2	5,260	9,655	6,423	62,769	94,416
Publicly owned	6.9	42.5	31.3	171.8	245.0	677	4,375	3,240	17,384	23,701
Northeast										
All new dwelling units..	152.1	176.8	135.2	2,080.7	1,748.1	13,415	15,538	11,593	188,255	152,250
Privately owned	150.0	159.6	121.0	1,997.8	1,675.1	13,141	13,639	10,076	179,341	145,111
1-family	133.3	142.3	109.3	1,826.6	1,487.4	10,984	11,246	8,609	156,492	120,718
2-4 family	5.0	6.1	4.5	64.4	57.0	765	826	613	8,836	7,848
5-or-more family	11.7	11.1	7.2	106.8	130.8	1,392	1,567	854	14,013	16,545
Publicly owned	2.1	17.2	14.2	82.8	73.0	274	1,899	1,517	8,914	7,139
North Central										
All new dwelling units..	195.1	253.1	164.6	3,017.6	2,510.9	15,153	19,844	12,777	241,181	196,673
Privately owned	194.3	250.2	163.6	2,978.0	2,475.9	15,053	19,522	12,657	237,150	193,132
1-family	182.9	230.2	150.3	2,835.7	2,272.7	13,731	17,068	11,132	220,838	168,991
2-4 family	7.0	10.1	7.1	84.8	99.0	816	1,126	752	8,880	10,680
5-or-more family	4.4	9.8	6.2	57.5	104.2	506	1,328	773	7,432	13,461
Publicly owned .....	.8	3.0	1.0	39.6	35.0	100	322	120	4,031	3,541
South										
All new dwelling units..	152.1	210.4	169.4	2,213.6	2,206.2	16,133	21,558	17,578	235,556	227,379
Privately owned	151.9	203.1	153.4	2,180.1	2,101.2	16,123	20,741	15,981	232,508	217,225
1-family	141.7	184.6	143.5	2,045.3	1,939.7	14,312	17,552	14,081	209,402	188,154
2-4 family	4.1	5.5	5.2	50.9	54.7	900	1,050	951	10,138	10,652
5-or-more family	6.0	13.0	4.6	84.0	106.7	911	2,139	949	12,968	18,419
Publicly owned .....	.2	7.3	16.0	33.5	105.0	10	817	1,597	3,048	10,154
West										
All new dwelling units..	179.7	227.1	162.6	2,316.3	2,182.7	17,392	22,238	16,277	229,874	217,718
Privately owned	175.8	212.2	162.5	2,300.4	2,150.7	17,099	20,901	16,271	228,483	214,851
1-family	154.8	173.4	131.9	2,059.1	1,767.8	13,538	14,679	11,113	185,944	152,373
2-4 family	6.9	10.3	8.3	85.4	103.4	1,110	1,601	1,311	14,183	16,487
5-or-more family	14.1	28.5	22.3	156.0	279.7	2,451	4,621	3,847	28,356	45,991
Publicly owned	3.9	14.9	.1	15.9	32.0	293	1,337	6	1,391	2,867

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown below table A-2.

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Table C-5: Building Permit Activity: Valuation, by Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Location and by State

State	(Millions of dollars)								
	1956	1957					First 10 months		Percent change, 1st 10 mos. 1956-57
	Oct.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	1956	1957	
ALL STATES	1,660.8	1,748.7	1,693.4	1,626.1	1,531.7	1,607.9	16,381.5	15,690.6	- 4
Metropolitan areas	1,301.1	1,350.6	1,302.5	1,261.8	1,202.5	1,254.3	12,802.6	12,196.2	- 5
Nonmetropolitan areas	359.7	398.1	390.9	364.3	329.2	353.6	3,578.9	3,494.4	- 2
Alabama	14.4	15.4	18.7	13.8	14.1	13.0	147.4	158.6	+ 8
Arizona	19.8	20.3	19.3	20.1	19.4	17.6	162.0	196.4	+21
Arkansas	4.5	4.7	8.4	5.4	5.7	5.7	50.3	62.9	+25
California	255.6	263.8	273.4	250.7	229.5	283.5	2,717.7	2,630.6	- 3
Colorado	41.2	24.0	25.3	18.1	21.2	17.2	238.9	214.3	-10
Connecticut	33.0	33.2	43.7	40.5	36.3	25.2	315.4	341.1	+ 8
Delaware	7.8	9.3	8.5	7.4	5.9	6.1	56.1	62.1	+11
District of Columbia	17.9	14.4	13.0	2.9	13.2	9.1	60.3	116.9	+94
Florida	77.5	86.6	88.9	81.4	74.5	77.6	711.3	795.8	+12
Georgia	19.2	16.7	21.9	18.9	24.4	22.9	220.0	214.5	- 3
Idaho	3.3	3.6	3.3	4.0	3.0	4.7	35.0	34.0	- 3
Illinois	119.3	120.1	109.0	103.9	105.7	108.9	1,166.5	1,072.0	- 8
Indiana	40.1	42.2	37.8	49.0	43.9	44.1	380.9	380.1	(1)
Iowa	21.6	18.5	18.2	14.7	17.1	16.6	161.3	140.2	-13
Kansas	13.3	10.6	15.8	17.9	12.6	10.8	129.0	116.6	-10
Kentucky	11.2	18.8	16.1	14.5	16.5	12.1	147.4	153.4	+ 4
Louisiana	21.7	27.2	23.2	20.9	20.1	23.0	239.6	214.0	-11
Maine	2.7	3.4	3.3	1.8	3.2	2.7	30.5	27.1	-11
Maryland	36.5	53.2	40.7	32.5	29.9	55.3	373.5	388.3	+ 4
Massachusetts	42.9	45.5	50.9	42.6	31.5	38.4	404.9	388.3	- 4
Michigan	115.5	107.8	91.1	87.9	82.6	82.1	977.9	816.1	-17
Minnesota	30.8	47.4	42.1	35.2	40.1	35.2	338.5	345.6	+ 2
Mississippi	5.0	7.8	4.4	4.4	6.3	5.8	47.0	46.7	- 1
Missouri	29.9	29.1	35.0	29.4	27.7	33.5	272.0	257.5	- 5
Montana	3.2	4.0	3.4	2.6	3.1	2.7	39.6	31.4	-21
Nebraska	8.8	6.6	7.0	8.3	5.7	7.5	73.8	69.1	- 6
Nevada	3.0	3.9	3.5	4.7	4.0	3.2	39.4	40.9	+ 4
New Hampshire	4.4	2.6	3.0	2.1	1.6	1.9	33.1	23.5	-29
New Jersey	74.0	68.4	60.3	71.8	65.0	70.1	701.4	629.3	-10
New Mexico	6.5	10.4	6.7	5.5	7.6	5.2	64.5	71.4	+11
New York	122.0	105.6	101.2	114.1	147.4	116.8	1,283.5	1,171.7	- 9
North Carolina	16.7	15.5	16.9	17.6	16.9	14.5	194.7	168.9	-13
North Dakota	3.5	4.1	5.7	5.4	5.0	4.3	37.8	35.2	- 7
Ohio	113.9	125.7	101.3	108.1	93.3	101.2	1,073.1	974.7	- 9
Oklahoma	9.4	8.5	13.8	13.2	9.3	10.5	119.1	103.5	-13
Oregon	13.4	13.2	14.6	13.7	12.3	12.1	163.0	124.1	-24
Pennsylvania	65.8	74.1	75.8	93.0	53.4	66.8	684.8	662.9	- 3
Rhode Island	3.6	3.9	5.3	5.3	5.3	6.3	51.9	41.9	-19
South Carolina	6.8	5.9	7.3	6.2	5.3	5.0	65.8	57.0	-13
South Dakota	4.5	2.5	4.6	3.5	3.4	4.2	34.8	32.2	- 7
Tennessee	15.7	22.0	16.9	15.8	14.2	14.5	183.2	158.1	-14
Texas	76.1	91.3	101.5	83.6	88.0	89.6	795.9	881.8	+11
Utah	8.2	12.2	9.4	9.8	10.2	11.6	132.0	100.7	-24
Vermont .....	.6	.5	.6	.6	7.0	1.8	9.3	14.4	+55
Virginia	40.7	51.5	32.4	34.0	32.2	30.1	404.4	341.3	-16
Washington	24.8	28.9	31.8	31.3	26.4	29.1	344.3	293.1	-15
West Virginia	6.2	16.4	6.9	14.8	4.5	5.2	56.5	73.4	+30
Wisconsin	40.9	44.9	49.3	41.0	42.7	41.1	389.3	398.3	+ 2
Wyoming	3.4	2.2	2.5	2.1	3.1	1.7	22.9	18.6	-19

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table C-6: Building Permit Activity: Number of New Dwelling Units, by Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Location and by State

State	(Housekeeping units only)								Percent change, 1st 10 mos. 1956-57
	1956	1957					First 10 months		
	Oct.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	1956	1957	
ALL STATES	79,549	79,911	75,949	80,298	72,063	79,178	832,773	735,795	-12
Metropolitan areas	60,662	62,069	56,961	62,531	54,032	59,864	637,953	564,472	-12
Nonmetropolitan areas	18,887	17,842	18,988	17,767	18,031	19,314	194,820	171,323	-12
Alabama	893	1,083	1,389	1,106	1,108	1,080	10,669	10,924	+ 2
Arizona	1,154	1,182	1,375	1,378	1,562	1,412	10,197	13,253	+30
Arkansas	354	297	299	298	384	349	3,165	3,150	(1)
California	14,219	14,030	12,755	13,748	12,855	16,595	154,252	146,979	- 5
Colorado	1,225	1,166	1,270	1,158	1,014	1,206	12,965	10,801	-17
Connecticut	1,616	1,474	1,628	1,771	1,209	989	15,172	13,618	-10
Delaware	579	329	170	280	132	273	2,951	2,055	-30
District of Columbia	689	573	199	48	51	670	2,105	2,481	+18
Florida	5,626	5,026	5,820	5,442	4,773	5,352	49,168	52,636	+ 7
Georgia	1,173	1,253	1,516	1,258	1,414	1,541	14,552	12,796	-12
Idaho	201	106	129	138	141	190	1,420	1,265	-11
Illinois	4,891	4,982	3,969	4,313	3,655	4,032	51,672	41,474	+20
Indiana	1,690	1,560	1,757	1,732	1,529	1,395	17,569	13,511	-23
Iowa	513	606	602	629	476	591	7,094	5,098	-28
Kansas	709	522	557	631	545	569	7,335	5,447	-26
Kentucky	536	673	766	661	835	652	7,900	6,979	-12
Louisiana	982	937	1,050	884	997	1,052	10,200	9,492	- 7
Maine	133	115	116	90	101	129	1,267	1,064	-16
Maryland	2,104	3,214	1,957	1,771	1,365	1,734	20,085	19,841	- 1
Massachusetts	1,987	1,688	1,532	1,397	1,233	1,430	20,062	14,115	-30
Michigan	4,016	4,284	4,093	4,676	3,815	3,836	44,639	36,197	-19
Minnesota	1,339	1,780	1,368	1,431	1,794	1,442	14,316	12,448	-13
Mississippi	218	268	296	249	168	296	2,565	2,212	-14
Missouri	1,086	920	1,085	1,269	1,097	1,263	12,088	9,469	-22
Montana	130	145	99	111	130	137	1,610	1,139	-29
Nebraska	345	310	429	394	349	377	4,133	3,330	-19
Nevada	150	198	196	111	125	104	1,983	1,592	-20
New Hampshire	238	147	125	112	98	122	1,788	1,170	-35
New Jersey	4,082	3,725	2,982	3,166	3,210	3,122	38,510	30,293	-21
New Mexico	372	502	508	392	547	360	4,013	4,382	+ 9
New York	6,463	5,068	4,908	7,285	5,410	7,041	65,711	52,585	-20
North Carolina	651	762	722	812	893	765	9,329	7,779	-17
North Dakota	190	134	167	205	232	279	1,465	1,415	- 3
Ohio	4,803	5,060	4,357	4,556	3,991	4,204	46,369	38,321	-17
Oklahoma	436	407	532	525	493	498	6,339	4,852	-23
Oregon	470	402	422	393	347	348	5,953	3,812	-36
Pennsylvania	2,241	3,124	2,356	3,849	2,547	2,351	29,378	25,286	-14
Rhode Island	270	282	224	195	266	306	2,644	2,226	-16
South Carolina	350	231	240	338	266	284	3,497	2,865	-18
South Dakota	130	92	94	125	175	153	1,422	968	-32
Tennessee	847	886	909	962	917	1,056	10,291	8,597	-16
Texas	3,503	4,000	4,838	4,217	4,478	4,162	40,448	42,780	+ 6
Utah	382	604	423	662	535	574	5,825	5,057	-13
Vermont	52	35	29	33	37	48	308	300	- 3
Virginia	2,263	2,023	1,871	2,103	1,678	1,609	23,393	18,104	-23
Washington	1,142	1,428	1,589	1,468	1,108	1,243	13,325	12,386	- 7
West Virginia	253	247	274	273	218	185	2,766	2,258	-18
Wisconsin	1,774	1,925	1,872	1,533	1,675	1,703	17,926	16,218	-10
Wyoming	79	106	85	120	85	69	939	775	-17

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

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Table C-7: Building Permit Activity: Valuation, in Selected Metropolitan Areas

(Millions of dollars)

Metropolitan area	1956	1957					First 10 months		Percent change, 1st 10 mos. 1956-57
	Oct.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	1956	1957	
Atlanta, Ga.	12.1	8.6	11.1	11.8	14.2	9.7	124.6	123.1	-1
Baltimore, Md.	19.7	29.5	18.3	14.7	11.4	37.8	191.3	213.0	+11
Birmingham, Ala.	5.3	6.0	6.7	5.3	4.7	4.8	59.5	58.2	-2
Boston, Mass.	23.0	20.7	27.7	23.7	17.0	21.2	212.6	215.3	+1
Buffalo, N. Y.	20.5	15.8	14.0	11.0	14.1	12.8	151.5	134.5	-11
Chicago, Ill.	104.3	111.4	95.1	102.5	94.5	102.9	1,036.5	982.8	-5
Cleveland, Ohio	34.8	47.9	31.4	34.8	26.9	32.4	343.9	296.7	-14
Columbus, Ohio	13.2	11.4	14.1	13.6	13.1	9.5	120.4	112.9	-6
Denver, Colo.	20.9	13.2	14.6	11.3	11.1	11.0	138.3	129.0	-7
Detroit, Mich.	81.3	64.3	55.0	54.9	54.3	47.7	628.6	517.3	-18
Indianapolis, Ind.	15.3	10.2	12.8	10.6	10.8	13.6	114.5	104.0	-9
Los Angeles, Calif.	126.0	121.3	117.2	118.5	104.7	130.1	1,358.5	1,244.1	-8
Miami, Fla.	25.7	33.6	26.4	25.8	19.2	21.5	232.5	254.3	+9
Milwaukee, Wis.	15.1	22.9	18.1	19.5	15.7	15.6	160.5	167.9	+5
New York-Northeastern New Jersey	123.9	106.8	94.7	125.7	158.0	129.0	1,332.6	1,211.2	-9
Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va.	8.2	19.3	4.5	5.0	4.3	5.2	68.8	61.1	-11
Philadelphia, Pa.	46.8	42.2	42.5	62.5	32.8	36.6	453.3	403.2	-11
Phoenix, Ariz.	13.6	12.9	13.5	15.0	13.0	13.0	105.9	123.2	+16
Rochester, N. Y.	5.6	13.7	5.9	5.9	6.2	6.0	62.1	61.7	-1
Salt Lake City, Utah	5.0	5.4	5.7	6.0	6.2	5.2	62.1	51.2	-18
San Diego, Calif.	27.2	20.0	16.7	20.0	16.5	26.2	164.7	201.4	+22
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.	37.3	33.5	47.8	35.5	43.7	37.6	402.5	376.4	-6
Seattle, Wash.	11.6	13.8	17.9	15.4	12.8	14.3	153.8	141.6	-8
Washington, D. C.	36.2	72.3	36.2	27.7	33.0	27.7	289.0	313.9	+9

Source: Department of Labor.

Table C-8: Building Permit Activity: Number of New Dwelling Units, in Selected Metropolitan Areas

(Housekeeping only)

Metropolitan area	1956	1957					First 10 months		Percent change, 1st 10 mos. 1956-57
	Oct.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	1956	1957	
Atlanta, Ga.	666	649	688	713	623	646	8,402	6,721	-20
Baltimore, Md.	1,230	2,149	781	837	489	672	10,113	10,725	+6
Birmingham, Ala.	247	421	504	382	410	390	3,566	4,037	+13
Boston, Mass.	975	643	768	669	507	669	8,728	6,382	-27
Buffalo, N. Y.	1,339	823	768	643	640	684	8,959	6,328	-29
Chicago, Ill.	4,267	4,586	3,374	3,752	3,082	3,526	45,309	36,576	-19
Cleveland, Ohio	1,031	1,563	1,109	1,388	1,094	970	11,143	10,259	-8
Columbus, Ohio	864	501	670	437	491	475	6,257	4,661	-26
Denver, Colo.	811	807	807	789	605	836	8,038	7,109	-12
Detroit, Mich.	2,551	2,705	2,452	2,536	2,438	2,121	28,770	21,945	-24
Indianapolis, Ind.	511	419	559	542	443	478	4,783	4,046	-15
Los Angeles, Calif.	7,236	6,570	5,436	6,589	5,848	7,020	77,987	70,582	-9
Miami, Fla.	1,735	1,489	1,873	1,188	1,127	1,255	14,703	15,531	+6
Milwaukee, Wis.	691	1,016	850	590	709	644	7,285	7,451	+2
New York-Northeastern New Jersey	6,509	5,658	4,966	7,494	5,749	7,295	67,695	55,737	-18
Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va.	407	399	296	426	155	425	4,157	2,894	-30
Philadelphia, Pa.	1,592	2,100	1,503	3,392	2,018	1,798	21,558	18,354	-15
Phoenix, Ariz.	900	905	1,104	1,126	1,243	1,132	7,040	9,925	+41
Rochester, N. Y.	229	259	267	258	211	214	2,899	2,342	-19
Salt Lake City, Utah	175	314	240	367	312	288	3,225	2,563	-21
San Diego, Calif.	1,290	1,326	1,094	1,323	1,263	2,080	10,745	13,858	+29
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.	1,752	1,557	1,868	1,719	1,504	1,677	19,590	15,885	-19
Seattle, Wash.	475	784	976	858	554	739	6,185	6,896	+11
Washington, D. C.	1,565	1,358	1,455	1,332	877	1,720	14,871	12,274	-17

Source: Department of Labor.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table C-9: Building Permit Activity: Valuation in Selected Metropolitan Areas by Type of Building Construction

October 1957 (Thousands of dollars)

Type of building construction	Atlanta, Ga.	Baltimore Md.	Birmingham, Ala.	Boston, Mass.	Buffalo, N. Y.	Chicago, Ill.	Cleveland, Ohio	Columbus, Ohio
All building construction ¹	9,735	37,759	4,791	21,200	12,845	102,946	32,406	9,467
New dwelling units ²	6,583	7,762	3,068	8,870	7,281	52,112	16,522	7,136
New nonresidential building	1,886	28,959	994	8,533	4,774	42,901	13,128	1,382
Commercial buildings*	733	23,240	176	987	724	6,699	3,494	796
Amusement buildings*	73	81	0	20	195	137	1,063	25
Commercial garages	19	23	0	65	0	6	36	5
Gasoline and service stations	118	102	49	64	146	846	215	18
Office buildings*	307	22,501	92	226	122	1,966	635	150
Stores and other mercantile bldgs.	217	532	36	612	261	3,744	1,545	598
Community buildings*	475	5,084	61	4,499	1,982	14,422	4,303	45
Educational buildings	180	1,260	0	4,140	797	7,213	3,270	0
Institutional buildings*	0	2,295	16	39	87	5,447	404	0
Religious buildings	295	1,529	45	320	1,098	1,762	630	45
Garages, private residential	18	70	28	177	477	2,798	719	243
Industrial buildings*	505	352	709	2,855	484	16,078	2,683	229
Public utilities buildings*	110	95	10	0	12	1,181	1,555	0
All other nonresidential buildings*	44	118	10	15	1,095	1,724	375	68
Additions, alterations, and repairs	1,267	992	792	3,048	790	6,845	1,957	949
	Denver, Colo.	Detroit, Mich.	Indianapolis, Ind.	Los Angeles, Calif.	Miami, Fla.	Milwaukee, Wis.	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va.
All building construction ¹	10,993	47,668	13,613	130,067	21,529	15,563	128,995	5,183
New dwelling units ²	7,844	26,404	5,700	72,021	12,430	7,161	80,158	3,895
New nonresidential building	1,782	17,259	6,943	44,463	4,978	7,328	37,062	803
Commercial buildings*	879	4,176	748	19,352	2,725	5,359	16,257	229
Amusement buildings*	0	1,160	0	1,199	160	150	1,726	0
Commercial garages	57	19	0	102	0	111	164	0
Gasoline and service stations	188	258	117	522	156	109	641	92
Office buildings*	353	796	243	3,317	11	143	4,494	14
Stores and other mercantile bldgs.	282	1,943	389	14,211	2,398	4,846	9,231	122
Community buildings*	326	5,373	724	15,083	467	1,132	10,194	510
Educational buildings	62	4,273	629	10,726	467	1,036	1,290	410
Institutional buildings*	68	122	0	3,132	0	0	7,254	0
Religious buildings	196	979	95	1,225	0	96	1,650	100
Garages, private residential	185	2,186	162	716	72	492	1,565	53
Industrial buildings*	312	1,304	5,302	4,733	563	128	7,212	0
Public utilities buildings*	0	4,046	0	1,349	945	0	65	0
All other nonresidential buildings*	79	174	7	3,231	206	217	1,770	11
Additions, alterations, and repairs	1,098	3,929	670	12,885	3,169	1,074	10,915	485
	Philadel- phia, Pa.	Phoenix, Ariz.	Rochester, N. Y.	Salt Lake City, Utah	San Diego, Calif.	San Francisco- Oakland, Calif.	Seattle, Wash.	Washington, D. C.
All building construction ¹	36,638	13,021	6,041	5,170	26,198	37,612	14,334	27,694
New dwelling units ²	21,418	9,654	3,040	3,354	20,867	17,900	8,488	17,572
New nonresidential building	10,207	1,597	2,430	937	2,992	14,590	4,181	6,354
Commercial buildings*	1,856	318	444	659	935	8,450	901	2,085
Amusement buildings*	155	34	0	0	47	25	134	251
Commercial garages	7	4	0	0	0	5	13	40
Gasoline and service stations	233	66	91	62	46	139	95	150
Office buildings*	133	112	19	513	278	7,543	178	357
Stores and other mercantile bldgs.	1,328	102	334	84	564	737	481	1,288
Community buildings*	5,403	797	1,725	0	368	2,307	1,931	4,066
Educational buildings	4,822	232	1,541	0	95	1,065	1,611	3,700
Institutional buildings*	81	0	0	0	0	16	0	0
Religious buildings	500	565	183	0	273	1,226	320	366
Garages, private residential	375	9	101	77	268	153	89	107
Industrial buildings*	779	318	135	176	1,077	2,044	1,090	14
Public utilities buildings*	546	0	0	0	0	1,178	99	0
All other nonresidential buildings*	1,248	155	25	26	343	458	72	82
Additions, alterations, and repairs	5,013	1,769	571	279	2,287	4,972	1,415	2,665

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building, not shown separately.² Housekeeping only.

* Includes some buildings previously classified under "public buildings," which will no longer be shown separately. Distribution of public buildings to other categories (e.g., office, industrial, institutional) was begun with data for January 1956. See Note on page 17 of October 1957 issue.

Part D-Contracts

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Table D-1: Contract Awards: Public Construction, by Ownership and Type of Construction¹

Ownership and type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)									Percent change, first 11 months 1956-57
	1956	1957						First 11 months		
	Nov.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	1956	1957	
TOTAL PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	769.4	1,315.9	1,132.8	865.3	732.1	879.4	865.7	9,548.3	10,680.7	+12
FEDERALLY OWNED	119.0	385.9	145.1	53.3	49.8	129.2	120.5	1,861.0	2,184.7	+17
Residential buildings	1.2	30.6	60.3	1.4	1.5	56.5	(2)	108.2	401.2	+271
Nonresidential buildings.....	57.3	205.8	30.9	13.9	14.0	40.3	36.7	858.6	695.8	-19
Educational.....	.9	7.6	2.1	(2)	.2	.3	1.5	22.3	47.4	+113
Hospital and institutional.....	.5	29.1	.3	.1	.7	3.7	19.9	42.8	78.3	+83
Administrative and service.....	3.0	64.5	10.1	4.8	1.7	23.7	2.9	83.5	135.8	+63
Other nonresidential buildings.....	52.9	104.6	18.4	9.0	11.4	12.6	12.4	710.0	434.3	-39
Airfield buildings.....	6.4	23.3	14.0	.8	2.3	3.8	.6	69.1	90.2	+31
Troop housing.....	4.7	9.2	.2	(2)	1.1	(2)	1.0	111.0	58.7	-47
Warehouses	1.2	11.3	.9	.5	.3	(2)	(2)	59.6	34.9	-41
All other	40.6	60.8	3.3	7.7	7.7	8.8	10.8	470.3	250.5	-47
Airfields	21.6	26.4	(2)	1.8	3.1	3.5	.2	127.7	179.1	+40
Conservation and development.....	26.5	73.5	42.1	14.4	14.5	18.6	21.1	448.4	544.1	+21
Highways.....	8.8	12.1	9.0	7.5	8.6	7.6	2.2	84.8	86.4	+2
Electric power	2.1	6.0	1.1	2.4	.9	.8	59.7	173.6	136.4	-21
All other federally owned	1.5	31.5	1.7	11.9	7.2	1.9	.6	59.7	141.7	+137
STATE AND LOCALLY OWNED	650.4	930.0	987.7	812.0	682.3	750.2	745.2	7,687.3	8,496.0	+11
Residential buildings	17.6	27.5	38.8	44.3	20.4	55.2	23.3	239.4	306.5	+28
Nonresidential buildings	253.5	337.8	267.0	305.5	278.1	303.5	267.7	2,930.6	3,170.7	+8
Educational	189.3	231.9	183.0	223.2	201.0	215.4	207.4	2,077.5	2,286.8	+10
Hospital and institutional	15.3	35.8	22.2	19.6	15.5	41.6	15.8	265.0	267.3	+1
Administrative and service	21.0	34.2	28.7	36.8	31.7	19.7	24.6	297.9	296.6	(3)
Other nonresidential buildings	27.9	35.9	33.1	25.9	29.9	26.8	19.9	290.2	320.0	+10
Highways	278.1	414.7	540.8	293.5	272.3	248.0	334.6	2,971.1	3,553.0	+20
Sewer and water systems.....	65.2	103.7	80.7	75.1	69.8	77.0	93.4	1,019.2	939.7	-8
Sewer.....	36.2	74.4	55.5	53.5	47.8	42.7	44.4	609.8	554.3	-9
Water.....	29.0	29.3	25.2	21.6	22.0	34.3	49.0	409.4	385.4	-6
Public service enterprises	25.2	33.3	38.7	74.7	26.6	48.2	15.0	305.3	344.8	+13
Electric power	17.9	23.7	14.7	61.6	10.1	24.3	5.3	216.0	190.7	-12
Other	7.3	9.6	24.0	13.1	16.5	23.9	9.7	89.3	154.1	+73
Conservation and development	5.8	4.8	12.3	10.8	7.8	8.4	6.9	135.2	101.5	-25
All other State and locally owned.....	5.0	8.2	9.4	8.1	7.3	9.9	4.3	86.5	79.8	-8

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

¹ Includes major force-account projects started, principally by TVA and State highway departments.

² Less than \$50,000.

³ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

Table D-2: Contract Awards: Highway Construction, by Ownership, Source of Funds, and Type of Facility¹

Ownership, source of funds, and type of facility	Value (in millions of dollars)									Percent change, first 11 months 1956-57
	1956	1957						First 11 months		
	Nov.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	1956	1957	
ALL HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION	286.9	426.8	549.8	301.0	280.9	255.6	336.8	3,055.9	3,639.4	+19
FEDERALLY OWNED	8.8	12.1	9.0	7.5	8.6	7.6	2.2	84.8	86.4	+ 2
STATE OWNED	239.2	358.5	491.0	240.9	223.3	211.9	266.2	2,510.5	3,057.6	+22
Federally aided projects:										
Total value	197.5	261.8	297.1	185.1	167.3	173.6	231.0	1,577.6	2,184.7	+38
Federal funds	128.2	174.9	200.8	114.7	110.9	123.0	174.6	862.5	1,460.4	+69
Independent State projects:										
Total value	41.7	96.7	193.9	55.8	56.0	38.3	35.2	932.9	872.9	- 6
Toll facilities	9.8	3.7	127.0	0	.3	.6	14.2	319.3	321.7	+ 1
LOCALLY OWNED ²	38.9	56.2	49.8	52.6	49.0	36.1	68.4	460.6	495.4	+ 8

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

¹ Includes force-account work started on Federal and State projects.

² By municipalities and counties.

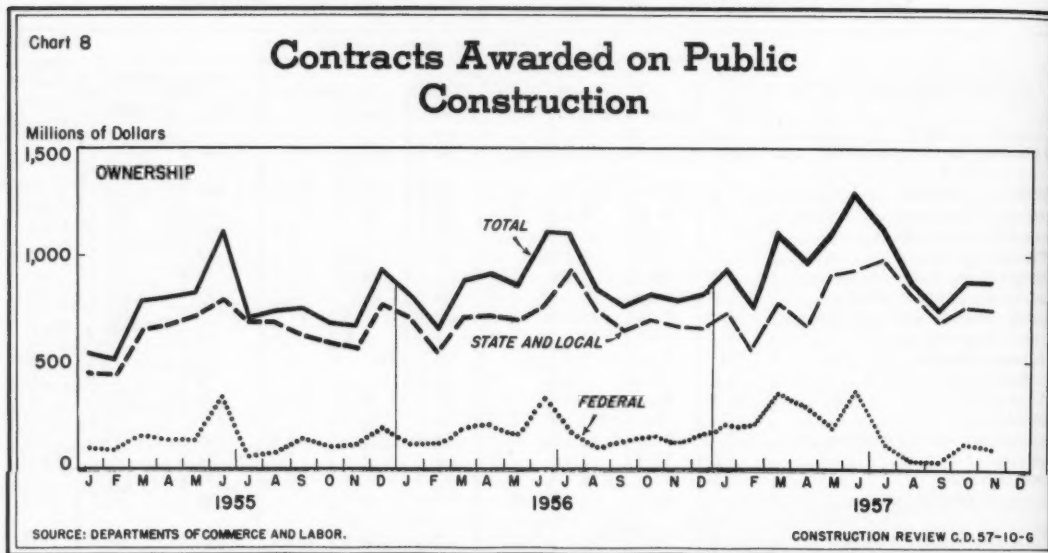


Table D-3: Value of Construction Contracts Reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation

Type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)			Percent change, year 1956-57
	Dec. 1957	Annual total		
		1957	1956	
TOTAL	1, 982	32, 173	31, 612	+ 2
Building construction	1, 457	24, 332	24, 070	+ 1
Residential	759	13, 039	12, 862	+ 1
Nonresidential	699	11, 293	11, 208	+ 1
Engineering.....	525	7, 841	7, 542	+ 4
Public works	381	5, 466	5, 428	+ 1
Utilities.....	144	2, 375	2, 115	+12

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce from data published by the F. W. Dodge Corporation.

Table D-4: Value of Construction Contract Awards Reported by the Engineering News-Record

Ownership and type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)			Percent change
	Jan. 1958 ¹	12 months ending--		12 months ending in Jan. 1957-58
		Jan. 1958	Jan. 1957	
TOTAL	1, 259	17, 581	21, 250	-17
Privately owned.....	521	8, 166	12, 962	-37
Publicly owned.....	738	9, 425	8, 288	+14
Private industrial buildings	173	2, 905	5, 226	-44
Buildings, except private industrial	574	7, 724	9, 399	-18
Highways and bridges.....	226	3, 642	3, 172	+15
Sewer systems	59	558	518	+ 8
Water systems	23	375	344	+ 9
Unclassified and all other	204	2, 577	2, 591	- 8

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce from data published by the Engineering News-Record. Data include only those projects with contract values above the following minimum sizes: Water supply, earthwork, and waterways--\$44,000; other public works--\$73,000; industrial buildings--\$93,000; other buildings--\$344,000.

¹Five weeks.

Part E--Costs

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Table E-1: Construction Cost Indexes

Compiler and coverage	Indexes (1947-49 = 100)									Percent change, year 1956-57
	1956	1957						Annual average		
	Dec.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1956	1957	
American Appraisal Company	138	142	142	143	143	143	143	135	141	+ 4
Associated General Contractors.....	145	151	151	152	152	152	152	143	149	+ 4
E. H. Boeckh and Associates (20 city average):										
Residences	130.4	132.8	132.9	132.8	132.2	132.2	132.3	129.4	131.8	+ 2
Apartments, hotels, and office buildings	138.9	142.4	142.5	142.6	142.3	142.2	142.3	137.0	141.2	+ 3
Commercial and factory buildings	140.9	145.2	145.3	145.4	145.1	145.1	145.2	138.7	143.7	+ 4
Engineering News-Record										
Building	148.7	150.6	153.6	153.4	153.6	153.6	153.5	145.9	151.2	+ 4
Construction	156.3	160.8	164.0	163.8	163.7	163.8	163.9	153.8	160.8	+ 5
Department of Commerce composite ¹	134	138	138	138	138	138	138	132	137	+ 4

Source: Department of Commerce. ¹ A composite of cost indexes representative of the major types of construction, weighted by the current relative importance of each type.

Table E-2: Indexes of Wholesale Prices of Building Materials, by Selected Classes

Commodity	Indexes (1947-49 = 100)									Percent change, Dec. 1956-57
	1957						1954	1955	1956	
	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	
ALL BUILDING MATERIALS ¹	131.4	131.2	130.9	130.2	130.1	130.1	122.0	128.3	130.5	(2)
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS:										
Lumber	120.0	119.4	118.3	117.5	117.1	116.5	119.8	126.4	122.5	- 5
Douglas fir	117.8	117.0	114.5	113.3	112.0	110.3	125.5	130.8	120.0	- 8
Southern pine	114.5	113.5	113.3	113.4	113.9	113.7	114.3	116.8	119.0	- 5
Other softwoods	133.4	133.0	131.8	130.9	130.5	130.2	131.6	137.4	133.0	- 2
Hardwoods	119.0	118.4	118.4	117.1	117.3	117.3	111.5	123.5	123.1	- 5
Millwork	128.3	128.3	128.3	128.3	128.0	127.7	130.3	128.8	128.5	- 1
Plywood	96.9	95.2	94.7	96.9	96.4	95.6	104.3	105.7	94.6	+ 1
Softwood	92.6	89.3	88.3	91.6	90.6	89.1	110.4	108.4	87.3	+ 2
Hardwood	103.4	103.4	103.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	100.1	105.0	104.2	(2)
PAINT AND PAINT MATERIALS:										
Prepared paint	128.1	128.1	128.1	128.1	128.1	128.5	112.8	115.8	124.1	+ 4
Paint materials	99.9	100.5	101.5	102.2	101.6	101.7	96.2	97.4	99.5	+ 2
METAL PRODUCTS:										
Structural shapes	192.3	192.3	192.3	192.3	192.3	192.3	146.2	157.5	170.5	+13
Hardware, finish	155.3	155.3	155.3	155.3	155.4	155.4	138.0	143.9	150.2	+ 4
Plumbing equipment	129.1	129.0	128.9	128.5	128.5	128.5	118.7	133.1	133.9	- 4
Enameled iron fixtures	125.8	125.8	125.8	125.8	125.8	125.8	129.2	131.9	125.3	(2)
Vitreous china fixtures	124.2	124.2	124.2	124.2	124.2	124.2	111.7	124.1	124.1	(2)
Brass fittings	135.7	135.7	135.7	135.0	135.0	135.0	117.1	138.1	142.6	- 5
Heating equipment	122.8	122.3	122.3	122.3	122.1	121.5	114.3	117.1	122.1	(2)
Furnaces	129.1	128.3	127.7	128.0	128.0	126.6	121.1	123.5	130.6	- 3
Water heaters	107.6	106.3	105.9	105.1	103.3	103.0	103.2	108.9	107.9	- 5
Metal sash	142.8	142.8	142.8	142.8	142.8	142.8	132.5	146.3	148.3	- 4
NONMETALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS:										
Glass, plate	145.7	145.7	145.7	145.7	145.7	145.7	132.0	137.5	145.7	0
Glass, window	145.9	145.9	145.9	145.9	145.9	145.9	131.3	138.8	145.9	0
Concrete ingredients	136.4	136.5	136.7	136.9	136.9	136.9	122.3	126.0	131.7	+ 4
Portland cement	147.2	147.2	147.2	147.2	147.2	147.2	128.3	132.3	141.4	+ 4
Concrete products	126.4	126.4	126.3	126.5	126.7	127.2	117.4	120.2	125.3	+ 2
Structural clay products	155.1	155.0	155.0	155.1	155.1	155.1	135.4	144.6	150.5	+ 3
Gypsum products	127.1	127.1	127.1	127.1	127.1	127.1	122.1	122.1	127.1	0
Asphalt roofing	125.8	125.8	124.6	124.6	124.6	124.6	106.1	101.0	114.4	+ 9
Insulation materials	103.1	103.1	103.5	103.4	103.4	103.8	107.3	105.8	100.3	+ 4
MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS:										
Building board	141.7	141.7	141.7	141.7	141.7	141.7	127.6	133.3	138.1	+ 3
Kitchen cabinets, metal	142.0	142.0	151.2	151.2	151.2	151.2	128.2	136.5	142.0	+ 7

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Includes items not shown separately.

² Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

Table E-3: Wholesale Prices of Selected Building Materials

Commodity	Unit	1957		1956
		Nov.	Oct.	Nov.
LUMBER				
Douglas fir:				
Dimension, construction, 25% standard green, S4S, 2"x4", R.L., mixed c/1, f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	\$60.109	\$61.243	\$67.109
Boards, construction, 25% standard green, S4S, R.L., 1"x8", loose, mixed c/1 of boards and dimension, f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	50.156	50.735	61.397
Timbers, construction, 8"x8" to 12"x12", R.L., green, f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	69.279	70.385	78.162
Southern pine:				
Dimension, No. 2 and better, 2"x4"x16", dry, S.L., S4S, f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	85.150	84.599	86.010
Boards, No. 2 and better, 1"x6", dry, R.L., S4S, f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	76.921	76.490	81.794
Ponderosa pine boards, No. 3 common, 1"x8", R.L., S2 or 4S, c/1 or mixed cars, f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	66.900	67.690	70.100
Oak, red, flooring, plain, 25/32" thick, 2-1/4" face, select, f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	160.302	160.302	186.450
Maple flooring, 2d grade, 25/32" x2-1/4" face, f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	215.605	214.867	209.402
Poplar, plain, No. 2B common, 4/4", R.W., f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	60.000	60.000	60.000
Beech, No. 2 common, 4/4", R.W. & L., f.o.b. mill.....	M bd. ft.	56.000	56.000	56.000
MILLWORK				
Door, flush type, interior, hardwood face, premium grade, 2'6"x6'8"x1-3/8", f.o.b. factory, carlot freight allowed, zone 1.....	Each	7.975	7.960	8.130
Door frame, ponderosa pine, exterior, 1-5/16"x2" casing, with sill, f.o.b. factory.....	Each	9.338	9.338	9.394
Window, ponderosa pine, 2-light, check rail, open, f.o.b. factory.....	Each	1.681	1.681	1.668
PLYWOOD				
Douglas fir, interior, grade A-D, 1/4"x48"x96", f.o.b. mill.....	M sq. ft.	68.448	68.448	63.695
Douglas fir, interior, grade C-D, 5/16"x48"x96", f.o.b. mill.....	M sq. ft.	52.287	54.188	56.089
BOARD				
Insulation, fiber, 1/2"x48"x96", interior, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized.....	M sq. ft.	59.000	59.000	57.500
PREPARED PAINT				
Emulsion, water-thinned, inside, delivered.....	Gallon	2.743	2.743	2.657
Varnish, floor, first grade, delivered.....	Gallon	4.119	4.119	3.996
Enamel, white, gloss, first grade, delivered.....	Gallon	5.128	5.128	4.969
Inside, flat, white, first grade, delivered.....	Gallon	3.383	3.383	3.242
Outside, white, first grade, delivered.....	Gallon	4.808	4.808	4.651
METAL PRODUCTS				
Structural shapes, carbon steel, 6"x4"x1/2" angles, 30' long, ASTM spec. A-7, base quantity, f.o.b. mill.....	100 lb.	5.942	5.942	5.267
Bars, reinforcing, carbon steel, 3/4" rounds x 30' long with 10% shorts, spec. ASTM A-15, 50T, base quantity, f.o.b. mill.....	100 lb.	6.210	6.210	5.738
Sheets, galvanized, carbon steel, 24 gage x 30" wide x 96" long, commercial coating, base chemistry, base packaging, base quantity, f.o.b. mill.....	100 lb.	8.220	8.220	8.220
Pipe, standard, black, carbon steel, butt-weld, threaded and coupled, 1-1/4" nominal, random lengths, wt. 228 lbs., f.o.b. mill.....	100 ft.	19.814	19.814	18.376
Pipe, standard, galvanized, carbon steel, butt-weld, threaded and coupled, 1-1/4" nominal, random lengths, wt. 228 lbs., f.o.b. mill.....	100 ft.	23.264	23.264	22.516
Nails, wire, carbon steel, 8-penny, common, c/1, f.o.b. mill.....	100 lb. keg	9.828	9.828	9.365
Soil pipe, cast iron, 2" to 6", single and double hub, service pipe, extra heavy, f.o.b. foundry, index number (1947-49 = 100).....	Ton	(114.5)	(114.5)	(114.5)
Aluminum sheets, 3003-H14, hard alloy, mill finish, 0.64"x48"x144", 30,000 lbs. or over, f.o.b. shipping point, freight allowed.....	Pound	\$0.449	\$0.449	\$0.427
Copper water tubing, type L, 3/4" size, 0.045" thick, 2,000 ft. or more in 60' coils (0.455 lbs. per linear ft.), f.o.b. mill, freight allowed.....	Foot	.272	.264	.297
Wire, building, type R, size 12, single braid, f.o.b. destination, or freight prepaid on specified amounts.....	M ft.	15.920	15.440	20.881
Screening, insect, bronze wire, 18x14 mesh, 30" wide, c/1, f.o.b. factory.....	Linear ft. roll	26.333	28.170	30.680
PLUMBING EQUIPMENT				
Bath tub, enameled iron, 5', recessed, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed.....	Each	55.216	55.216	55.113
Lavatory, enameled iron, 20"x18", f.o.b. plant, freight allowed.....	Each	13.497	13.497	13.497
Water closet, vitreous china, close coupled, reverse trap, f.o.b. plant, freight allowed.....	Each	24.686	24.686	24.682
Sink, enameled steel, 32"x21", flat rim, 2-compartment, acid resisting, without drainboard, f.o.b. plant, freight allowed.....	Each	13.194	13.194	15.687

Table E-3: Wholesale Prices of Selected Building Materials--Continued

Commodity	Unit	1957		1956
		Nov.	Oct.	Nov.
HEATING EQUIPMENT				
Boiler, heating, steel, oil fired, steam rating 400 sq. ft., less burner, with jacket and standard trim, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed	Each	\$220.461	(1)	\$193.570
Convactor, nonferrous, free standing, average steam rating 43 sq. ft., E.D.R., f.o.b. factory, freight allowance	Sq. ft., incl. enclosure	.454	\$0.454	.454
Furnace, warm air:				
Steel, oil fired, forced air, gun-type burner, average bonnet output 90,000-115,000 BTU per hr., f.o.b. factory, freight allowance	Each	263.725	263.725	250.019
Steel, gas fired, standard automatic controls, average input rating 85,000-110,000 BTU per hr., enclosing jacket, f.o.b. factory, freight allowance	Each	169.202	169.202	174.334
Furnace, floor, gas fired, floor grill, average input rating 40,000-60,000 BTU per hr., manual controls, f.o.b. factory	Each	58.283	58.283	57.541
Oil burner, mechanical forced draft (gun-type) 2-1/2 gal. per hr., thermostat, limit and stack controls, f.o.b. factory	Each	112.609	112.609	106.181
Water heater, gas, automatic, 30-gal. storage tank, galvanized steel, 1-year guarantee, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed	Each	39.595	40.882	41.640
NONMETALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS				
Sand, construction, f.o.b. plant	Ton	1.302	1.302	1.232
Gravel, for concrete, 1-1/2" maximum, f.o.b. plant	Ton	1.591	1.591	1.517
Crushed stone, for concrete, 1-1/2" maximum, f.o.b. plant	Ton	1.674	1.674	1.614
Block, concrete, lightweight aggregate, 8"x8"x16", f.o.b. plant	Each	.193	.192	.183
Pipe, concrete, culvert, reinforced, 24" diameter, ASTM spec. C76-41 table 1, 3" wall thickness, 3'-8' lengths, delivered	Foot	4.141	4.141	4.126
Brick, building, f.o.b. plant	Thousand	30.816	30.816	30.718
Brick, face, red, first quality, textured, f.o.b. plant	Thousand	40.575	40.575	39.998
Tile, clay, partition, scored, 4"x12"x12", 3-cell, 16 lbs., f.o.b. plant	Thousand	134.556	134.556	134.556
Sewer pipe, vitrified clay, 8" diameter, 3' lengths, standard strength, f.o.b. plant	Foot	.547	.547	.530
Lath, gypsum, 3/8"x16"x48", f.o.b. plant, freight equalized	M sq. ft.	25.034	25.034	24.990
Wallboard, gypsum, 3/8"x48", varying lengths, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized	M sq. ft.	32.830	32.830	32.830
Plaster, gypsum, base coat, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized	Ton	15.928	15.928	15.928
Shingles, asphalt, strip, 210 lbs., f.o.b. factory, freight allowance	Square	6.248	6.248	5.754
Lime, hydrated, building, finishing, f.o.b. plant	Ton	21.772	21.772	21.183
Siding shingles, asbestos cement, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized	Square	11.456	11.456	11.111

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Not yet available.

Table E-4: Indexes of Union Hourly Wage Rates in the Building Trades, by Trade

(1947-49=100)

Period	All trades	Bricklayers	Carpenters	Electricians	Painters	Plasterers	Plumbers	Building laborers
1950: July 1	110.7	111.6	110.1	111.5	109.6	113.0	107.8	112.4
1951: July 1	117.8	116.3	117.4	120.0	116.8	118.5	114.2	120.4
1952: July 1	125.1	126.2	124.6	126.8	124.4	125.3	121.0	128.6
1953: July 1	131.6	130.0	131.1	132.0	130.5	130.1	125.4	138.4
1954: July 1	136.4	134.2	135.3	135.9	134.5	132.5	132.3	144.4
1955: July 1	141.2	137.8	140.3	139.0	139.9	136.5	135.5	150.9
1956: July 1	147.7	144.0	146.2	146.6	145.5	141.7	141.5	159.5
1957: July 1	155.3	149.6	153.9	153.9	153.2	146.9	149.3	169.5
1957: Jan. 2	*150.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Apr. 1	*150.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Oct. 1	*156.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
1958: Jan. 2	*157.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

Source: Department of Labor.

* Estimated.

¹ Not available.

Table E-5: Union Wage Scales in the Building Trades: Average Rate and Range in Rates, by Trade, and Rate by City

(As of Jan. 2, 1958)

City	Bricklayers	Carpenters	Electricians	Painters	Plasterers	Plumbers	Building laborers
ALL PLACES:							
Estimated average rate.....	\$3.79	\$3.34	\$3.53	\$3.20	\$3.66	\$3.60	\$2.39
Range in rate levels.....	2.50-4.25	2.00-4.00	2.38-4.35	1.75-3.60	2.50-4.25	2.40-4.10	1.15-3.25
Cents-per-hour increase, Oct. 1, 1957- Jan. 2, 1958.....	1.6	3.2	2.4	2.3	0.7	3.9	1.6
Albuquerque, N. Mex.	3.775	3.025	3.325	2.750	3.250	*3.400	1.975
Atlanta, Ga.	*3.600	*2.950	3.300	3.000	3.125	3.300	*1.600
Baltimore, Md.	3.800	3.050	3.425	2.825	3.350	3.300	1.900
Birmingham, Ala.	*3.700	*2.850	3.300	*3.000	3.050	3.320	*1.650
Boise, Idaho	3.500	2.875	3.100	2.750	3.000	3.200	*2.220
Boston, Mass.	3.650	3.250	*3.550	*3.000	3.650	3.300	2.450
Buffalo, N. Y.	3.690	3.585	*3.750	3.200	3.715	3.425	2.610
Burlington, Vt.	3.650	2.750	2.375	1.750	3.500	2.400	2.000
Butte, Mont.	3.125	3.000	3.350	2.750	3.250	3.275	2.090
Charleston, S. C.	2.750	2.500	3.000	2.250	2.750	3.100	1.250
Charleston, W. Va.	3.650	3.175	3.400	2.750	3.250	3.350	*2.250
Charlotte, N. C.	3.000	*2.400	2.850	1.750	*2.625	3.100	*1.330
Chattanooga, Tenn.	*3.750	*2.725	3.300	2.675	*3.200	*3.400	*1.800
Cheyenne, Wyo.	3.500	2.750	2.950	2.650	3.000	3.000	1.800
Chicago, Ill.	3.825	3.450	3.650	3.475	3.700	3.530	2.775
Cincinnati, Ohio	3.600	3.450	3.670	3.100	3.500	3.575	2.500
Cleveland, Ohio	3.715	3.740	3.765	3.415	3.740	3.640	3.000
Columbia, S. C.	2.500	2.000	*2.850	2.125	2.500	3.000	(2)
Columbus, Ohio	3.650	*3.200	3.410	2.900	3.320	*3.450	*2.300
Dallas, Tex.	3.775	3.100	3.250	*3.000	3.563	3.250	1.625
Dayton, Ohio	3.645	*3.275	3.515	3.120	3.325	*3.550	2.305
Denver, Colo.	3.750	3.200	3.400	2.975	3.375	3.400	2.100
Des Moines, Iowa	3.800	3.125	3.425	2.870	3.250	3.425	2.375
Detroit, Mich.	3.530	3.250	3.650	3.125	3.580	3.635	2.580
Duluth, Minn.	3.400	2.850	*3.200	2.750	3.225	*3.100	2.200
El Paso, Tex.	3.600	3.000	3.350	*2.550	3.250	3.350	1.650
Erie, Pa.	3.750	3.330	3.375	2.880	3.400	3.400	2.450
Evansville, Ind.	3.550	3.000	3.300	2.850	3.350	3.325	2.125
Fargo, N. Dak.	3.400	2.500	2.800	2.400	3.250	2.800	1.800
Grand Rapids, Mich.	3.750	*3.150	3.400	2.750	*3.130	*3.700	2.350
Hartford, Conn.	3.650	3.250	3.650	3.000	3.650	3.320	2.230
Houston, Tex.	3.750	*3.075	3.525	3.000	3.500	3.275	*1.850
Indianapolis, Ind.	3.800	3.350	3.550	3.200	3.450	3.500	2.300
Jackson, Miss.	3.250	2.650	3.000	2.375	2.750	3.000	1.350
Jacksonville, Fla.	*3.350	*2.850	3.450	2.525	2.950	*3.350	1.200
Kansas City, Mo.	3.750	3.125	3.475	3.075	3.500	3.400	2.255
Knoxville, Tenn.	3.600	2.875	3.150	2.600	3.125	3.300	1.775
Lansing, Mich.	3.800	3.250	3.500	3.000	3.800	*3.500	2.450
Las Vegas, Nev.	4.000	3.425	3.800	3.325	*3.950	*3.950	2.650
Little Rock, Ark.	3.500	2.850	2.875	2.500	3.190	3.130	1.400
Los Angeles, Calif.	3.800	3.225	3.750	*3.260	3.937	3.700	2.500
Louisville, Ky.	3.750	3.300	3.450	*3.050	3.400	3.450	2.250
Madison, Wis.	3.450	3.000	3.400	2.850	3.270	3.150	2.450
Manchester, N. H.	3.500	3.000	3.000	*2.330	3.500	3.150	2.200
Memphis, Tenn.	3.750	2.800	3.300	2.720	3.250	3.245	1.525
Miami, Fla.	3.450	3.050	*3.500	2.870	3.450	3.400	1.580
Milwaukee, Wis.	3.550	3.300	3.350	3.000	3.310	3.360	2.520
Minneapolis, Minn.	3.575	3.150	3.250	3.000	3.250	3.215	2.400
Mobile, Ala.	3.685	2.950	3.375	*2.875	3.300	3.600	1.730
Montgomery, Ala.	*3.250	*2.450	2.850	2.500	2.500	3.100	*1.200

See footnotes at end of table.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table E-5: Union Wage Scales in the Building Trades: Average Rate and Range in Rates, by Trade, and Rate by City--Continued

(As of Jan. 2, 1958)

City	Bricklayers	Carpenters	Electricians	Painters	Plasterers	Plumbers	Building laborers
Nashville, Tenn.	\$3.625	*\$2.850	*\$3.175	\$2.750	*\$3.250	*\$3.300	\$1.475
Newark, N. J.	4.250	*4.000	4.250	3.600	4.250	4.000	3.200
New Haven, Conn.	3.500	3.250	3.500	3.100	3.500	3.350	2.450
New Orleans, La.	*3.425	*2.900	*3.375	2.500	2.985	*3.250	*1.650
New York, N. Y.	4.150	*4.000	3.650	3.290	4.150	*4.100	*3.250
Norfolk, Va.	3.500	*2.600	*3.200	*2.600	3.125	3.150	1.450
Oakland, Calif.	3.750	3.175	*3.785	3.200	3.540	*3.875	2.505
Oklahoma City, Okla.	3.800	*2.975	3.375	2.800	3.500	3.420	1.950
Omaha, Nebr.	3.575	3.050	3.500	2.700	3.400	3.300	2.100
Peoria, Ill.	3.750	3.360	3.500	3.075	3.600	3.550	2.675
Philadelphia, Pa.	*3.870	3.535	4.075	3.025	3.900	*4.000	2.250
Phoenix, Ariz.	3.875	3.190	3.450	*2.900	3.570	3.550	2.270
Pittsburgh, Pa.	3.950	3.525	4.000	3.250	3.575	3.775	2.325
Portland, Maine	*3.500	*2.850	3.000	2.100	3.250	3.225	2.100
Portland, Oreg.	3.650	*3.100	*3.380	*3.000	3.350	3.360	*2.550
Providence, R. I.	*3.600	2.900	3.200	*2.650	3.500	3.200	2.225
Raleigh, N. C.	2.750	2.000	2.625	1.900	2.750	2.750	1.150
Reading, Pa.	*3.600	3.000	3.400	2.600	3.250	3.250	2.050
Richmond, Va.	3.500	*2.600	*3.150	2.250	3.070	3.100	1.400
Rochester, N. Y.	3.685	3.400	3.520	3.150	3.685	3.320	2.640
Rock Island, Ill. (Dist) ³	3.600	3.040	3.500	3.000	3.250	*3.500	2.380
St. Louis, Mo.	3.750	*3.450	*3.750	*3.415	*3.800	*3.725	*2.500
St. Paul, Minn.	3.575	3.150	3.250	3.000	3.250	3.215	2.400
Salt Lake City, Utah	*3.770	2.975	*3.275	2.760	3.250	*3.250	2.100
San Antonio, Tex.	*3.500	2.875	3.250	2.500	*3.500	*3.363	1.375
San Diego, Calif.	3.750	3.225	*3.900	*3.190	3.725	3.700	2.480
San Francisco, Calif.	3.950	3.175	*3.785	3.200	3.690	3.670	2.505
Santa Fe, N. Mex.	3.750	3.025	3.100	2.500	3.000	*3.400	1.975
Savannah, Ga.	3.200	*2.900	3.250	2.500	*2.500	3.350	1.400
Schenectady, N. Y.	3.500	3.175	3.550	2.750	3.500	3.350	2.475
Scranton, Pa.	3.500	2.925	3.250	2.625	3.400	*3.250	2.200
Seattle, Wash.	3.750	*3.130	3.400	*3.135	3.400	*3.620	*2.700
Shreveport, La.	*3.750	*2.775	3.375	2.625	3.250	3.150	*1.575
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.	3.500	2.575	3.000	2.300	3.000	3.150	1.800
South Bend, Ind.	3.700	3.050	3.380	2.800	3.250	3.375	2.300
Spokane, Wash.	*3.890	*3.130	3.325	*3.000	3.450	*3.620	2.400
Springfield, Mass.	3.525	3.050	3.175	2.800	3.525	3.200	2.175
Syracuse, N. Y.	3.600	3.220	3.700	2.850	3.475	3.255	2.450
Tampa, Fla.	3.200	2.675	*3.350	2.500	3.200	3.250	1.375
Toledo, Ohio	*3.730	*3.620	*3.650	*3.240	3.620	*3.650	*2.740
Trenton, N. J.	3.850	3.600	4.350	3.200	3.850	3.750	2.600
Tulsa, Okla.	3.750	3.025	3.325	3.000	3.500	3.430	1.900
Washington, D. C.	3.750	3.350	3.750	*3.300	3.650	3.760	2.200
Wichita, Kans.	3.625	2.900	3.350	2.625	3.375	*3.600	2.100
Wilmington, Del.	3.700	3.350	*3.825	2.975	3.450	3.550	2.050
Worcester, Mass.	3.550	3.180	3.250	2.800	3.550	3.150	2.450
York, Pa.	3.325	2.700	3.250	2.350	3.125	*3.150	1.850
Youngstown, Ohio	3.740	3.425	3.600	3.200	3.600	*3.545	2.645

Source: Department of Labor.
of data reported for previous quarter.
Davenport, Iowa.

* Represents an increase in rates between October 1, 1957 and January 2, 1958.

² No union scale in effect on survey date.

¹ Indicates correction
³ Includes Rock Island and Moline, Ill., and

Part F--Materials Output

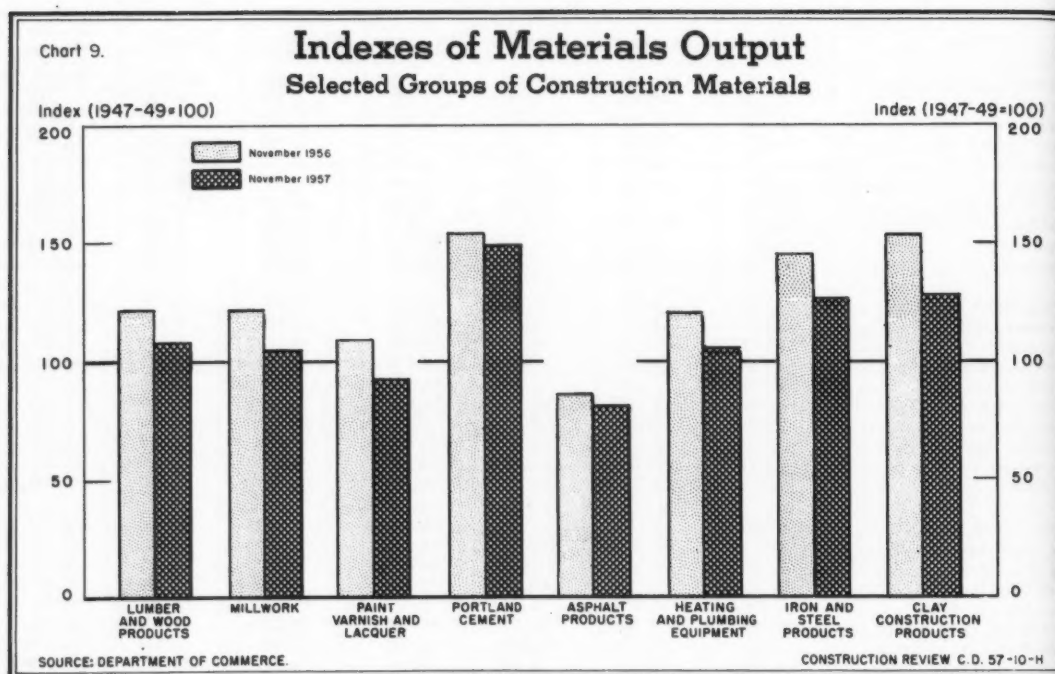


Table F-1: Construction Materials: Indexes of Output

(Monthly average 1947-49 = 100)

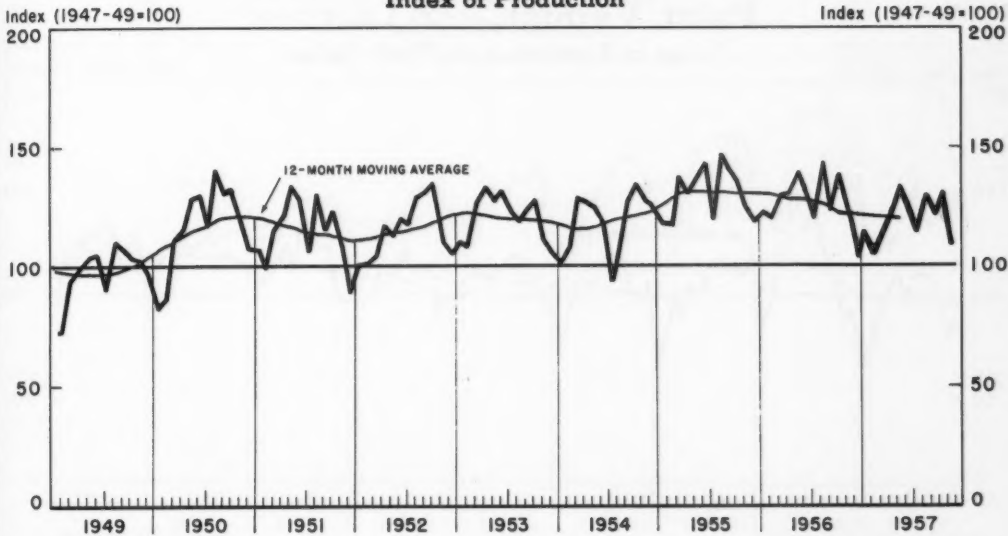
Materials group	Monthly Indexes												
	1956		1957										
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Lumber and wood products ¹	120.9	102.9	113.8	106.1	113.8	124.8	131.2	124.6	113.8	129.7	120.5	130.3	108.1
Millwork ²	120.8	94.7	106.0	114.5	111.4	118.5	115.1	137.3	111.7	146.9	132.5	134.5	103.8
Paint, varnish, and lacquer ³	109.8	91.3	112.6	127.4	112.0	126.5	133.1	130.4	128.6	126.3	116.0	119.6	92.1
Portland cement.....	154.8	146.1	115.6	106.6	135.4	143.4	164.4	158.3	121.4	187.9	184.7	180.2	149.6
Asphalt products ⁴	86.1	52.1	86.8	91.9	76.6	96.8	88.1	96.7	115.5	131.5	113.3	126.8	80.9
Heating and plumbing equipment.....	120.9	95.1	103.1	101.1	105.6	113.0	106.5	106.5	104.6	113.1	139.8	138.3	106.7
Iron and steel products.....	145.5	145.1	142.6	135.2	150.8	151.5	156.5	163.0	140.9	151.8	140.0	*147.8	126.8
Clay construction products ²	154.9	134.3	119.5	108.1	119.1	129.3	136.0	132.4	134.8	141.4	132.9	146.4	128.9
	Quarterly Indexes												
	1956				1957								
	1st qtr.	2d qtr.	3d qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2d qtr.	3d qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2d qtr.	3d qtr.	4th qtr.	
Gypsum products.....	188.4	189.5	158.0	145.8	142.1	156.2	168.2	116.1	117.1	107.2			
Plumbing fixtures.....	141.9	137.4	116.8	117.9									

Source: Table compiled by the Department of Commerce from data reported by various Government agencies and by private firms as shown in notes to the tables following in Part F. ¹ Data revised from January 1954. ² Data revised from January 1953. ³ Data revised from January 1955. ⁴ Data revised for January-December 1954. NOTE: Revised statistics for months not shown here are available upon request to the Department of Commerce, Business and Defense Services Administration.

Chart 10

Lumber and Wood Products

Index of Production



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW C.D. 57-10-1

Table F-2: Lumber and Wood Products: Production, Shipments, and Stocks

Period	Softwood lumber (Million board feet)			Hardwood flooring (Thousand board feet)			Douglas fir plywood (Million square feet)	Insulating boards (Tons)	Hardboard (Tons)
	Production	Shipments	Stocks*	Production	Shipments	Stocks*	Production		
1947-49 average.....	28,252	27,656	4,485	812,365	789,437	44,455	1,802	766,269	294,214
Year: 1954.....	29,282	29,823	5,296	1,145,118	1,139,091	68,425	3,871	1,007,653	464,868
1955.....	31,479	31,383	5,387	1,268,104	1,258,914	70,045	4,947	1,092,890	529,558
1956.....	30,484	29,758	6,117	1,166,446	1,117,010	114,074	5,191	1,102,012	539,981
12 months ending:									
Nov. August 1957.....	28,396	28,061	--	1,015,216	989,569	--	5,323	973,991	565,403
September 1957.....	28,210	28,039	--	1,002,552	979,757	--	5,362	971,788	576,389
October 1957.....	27,938	27,960	--	984,147	970,900	--	5,380	972,828	590,111
November 1957.....	27,592	27,646	--	965,230	957,525	--	5,375	976,092	600,468
1956: November.....	2,382	2,278	6,010	90,162	83,951	108,792	445	73,779	43,918
December.....	2,002	1,898	6,117	74,585	69,278	114,074	397	63,491	39,361
1957: January.....	2,159	2,116	6,130	91,310	82,340	123,194	440	85,189	44,006
February.....	2,039	1,951	6,218	78,167	72,782	128,579	405	78,768	41,468
March.....	2,253	2,231	6,240	76,311	80,821	120,826	404	81,667	45,758
April.....	2,449	2,511	6,204	81,930	85,457	115,712	473	86,266	45,429
May.....	2,560	2,609	6,163	87,060	87,813	113,114	505	84,107	53,558
June.....	2,443	2,500	6,176	78,122	78,203	112,084	467	84,678	54,321
July.....	2,229	2,358	5,956	76,731	77,522	110,120	413	78,908	52,401
August.....	2,562	2,624	5,867	85,633	86,080	109,973	468	86,869	56,360
September.....	2,354	2,341	5,880	78,366	78,681	109,608	451	81,015	54,272
October.....	2,506	2,543	5,849	85,770	87,972	104,641	512	88,091	59,259
November.....	2,036	1,964	5,892	71,245	70,576	102,768	440	77,043	54,275
Percent change									
November, 1956-57.....	-15	-14	-2	-21	-16	-6	-1	+4	+24
First 11 mos., 1956-57.....	-10	-8	--	-18	-15	--	+4	-12	+12

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the National Lumber Manufacturers Association, the Douglas Fir Plywood Association, and the Bureau of the Census. * As of end of period.

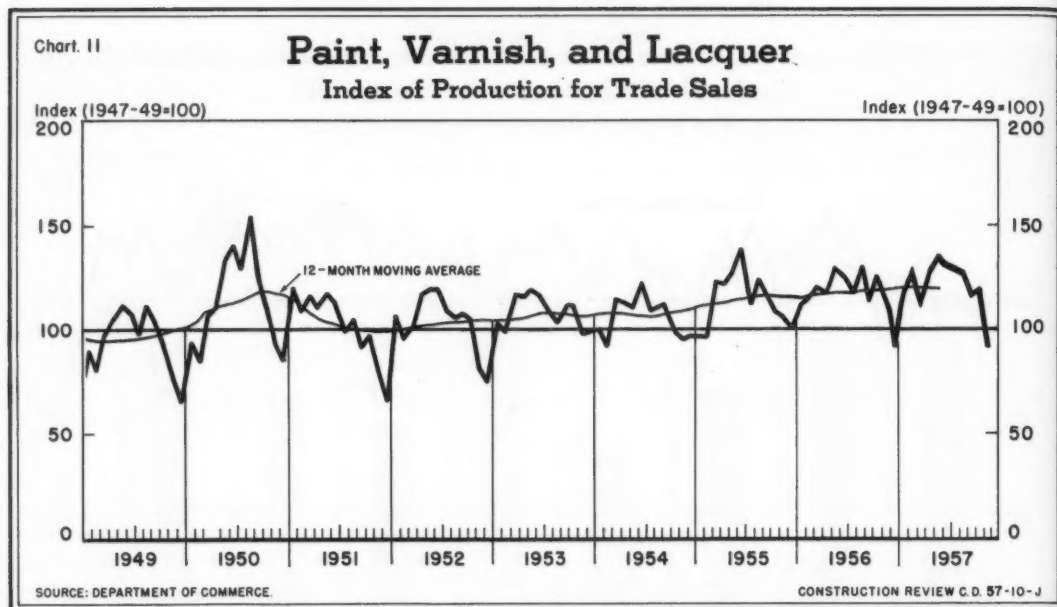


Table F-3: Millwork Products, and Paint, Varnish, and Lacquer; Production

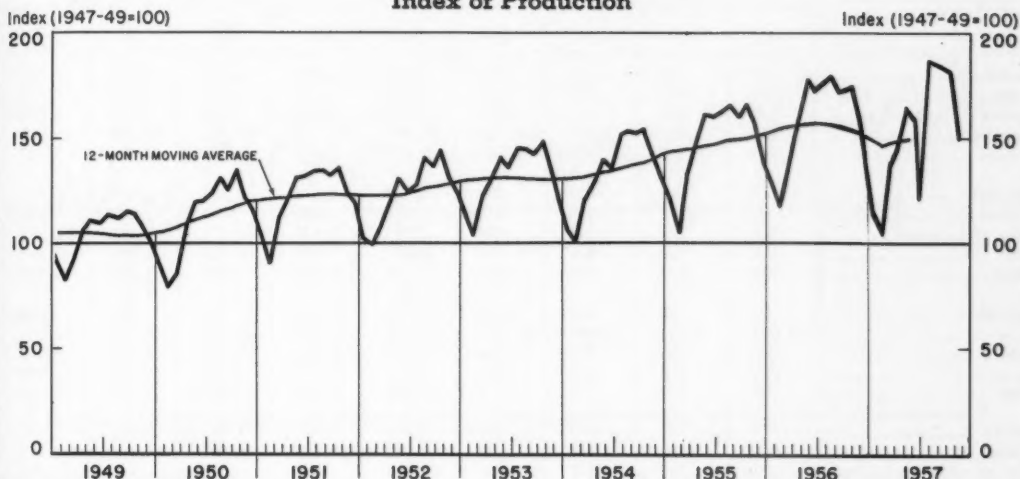
Period	Production (Thousands of units)				Production for trade sales (Thousands of gallons)
	Ponderosa pine doors	Hardwood doors	Sash	Exterior frames	Paint, varnish & lacquer
1947-49 average.....	3,768	3,298	11,043	4,186	266,701
Year: 1954.....	2,285	5,940	11,054	5,791	284,458
1955.....	2,253	6,786	12,733	7,259	312,510
1956.....	2,035	6,404	10,551	5,679	312,543
12 months ending:					
August 1957.....	1,996	5,687	9,896	5,313	319,412
September 1957.....	2,012	5,663	9,882	5,313	319,933
October 1957.....	2,022	5,608	9,856	5,281	318,620
November 1957.....	2,011	5,503	9,850	5,266	314,674
1956: November.....	161	513	799	352	24,407
December.....	137	410	616	245	20,282
1957: January.....	151	431	723	337	25,028
February.....	170	481	668	350	28,314
March.....	163	448	666	388	24,900
April.....	180	452	705	464	28,108
May.....	164	395	775	549	29,577
June.....	165	507	916	608	28,974
July.....	156	425	831	412	28,582
August.....	187	538	1,076	621	28,078
September.....	186	505	1,004	479	25,780
October.....	202	503	1,077	476	26,590
November.....	150	408	793	337	20,461
Percent change					
November, 1956-57.....	-7	-20	-1	-5	-16
First 11 mos., 1956-57.....	-1	-15	-7	-8	+1

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDCA) from data reported by the National Wood Work Manufacturers Association (whose data on ponderosa pine and hardwood doors, sash, and exterior frames are only from member firms, and are not adjusted to represent full coverage) and Bureau of the Census.

Chart 12

Portland Cement

Index of Production



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW C.D. 57-10-K

Table F-4: Portland Cement, and Asphalt and Gypsum Products: Production, Shipments, and Stocks

Period	Pro- duction	Ship- ments	Stocks *	Shipments (Thousands of squares)				Shipments (Million square feet)	
	(Thousands of barrels)			Asphalt prepared roofing	Asphalt siding	Asphalt insulated brick siding	Asphalt and tar saturated felts	Gypsum board ¹	Gypsum lath ¹
	Portland cement								
1947-49 average	200,607	199,306	11,922	61,252	3,365	2,811	17,087	2,478	2,075
Year: 1954	271,277	274,096	16,731	59,104	1,412	2,303	35,754	4,217	2,484
1955	296,829	296,275	17,536	62,582	1,288	2,194	34,629	4,911	2,926
1956	316,465	311,571	22,412	57,590	1,208	2,055	29,774	4,814	2,647
12 months ending:									
August 1957	297,393	294,508	--	53,348	1,124	1,854	30,709		
September 1957	299,634	295,040	--	53,251	1,117	1,830	30,748	4,446	2,224
October 1957	300,704	294,617	--	53,354	1,106	1,789	30,969		
November 1957	299,844	292,750	--	53,187	1,066	1,761	30,866		
1956: November	25,874	22,906	15,975	3,898	121	143	2,275		
December	24,429	17,990	22,412	2,165	66	72	1,689	1,055	530
1957: January	19,320	11,927	29,833	3,895	103	84	2,609		
February	17,827	15,274	32,381	4,142	91	117	2,648	1,047	497
March	22,642	20,757	34,267	3,342	74	123	2,246		
April	23,967	23,351	34,893	4,449	80	142	2,617		
May	27,485	29,203	33,175	3,998	65	175	2,273	1,130	577
June	26,462	29,758	29,885	4,558	76	174	2,341		
July	20,287	25,827	24,345	5,433	81	183	2,922		
August	31,406	35,732	20,019	5,917	101	195	3,724	1,217	621
September	30,884	30,707	20,195	5,467	115	186	2,615		
October	30,121	31,164	19,207	6,090	133	195	3,010		
November	25,014	21,039	23,188	3,731	81	115	2,172		
Percent change									
November, 1956-57	- 3	- 8	+45	- 4	-33	-20	- 5	--	--
First 11 mos., 1956-57	- 6	- 6	--	- 8	-12	-15	+ 4	--	--

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Department of Interior (Bureau of Mines), and the Bureau of the Census.

* As of end of period.

¹ Data reported on quarterly basis.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table F-5: Portland Cement: Destination of Shipments, by State

State	(Thousands of barrels)								
	1957			Calendar year			12 months ending--		
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	1954	1955	1956	Aug. 1957	Sept. 1957	Oct. 1957
Alabama	555	353	411	3,943	3,949	4,935	4,861	4,785	4,751
Arizona	226	245	262	2,215	2,337	2,621	2,592	2,636	2,666
Arkansas	176	179	199	1,894	2,519	1,841	1,692	1,707	1,732
California	3,251	3,081	3,160	28,528	31,553	35,854	33,467	33,555	33,310
Colorado	447	452	412	3,285	3,486	3,703	3,771	3,883	3,927
Connecticut	755	611	607	3,258	3,380	4,325	4,937	5,104	5,251
Delaware	136	92	104	910	1,097	1,086	945	919	925
District of Columbia	137	120	116	1,324	1,395	1,327	1,202	1,195	1,200
Florida	750	839	820	8,354	8,997	9,499	10,023	9,997	9,943
Georgia	566	354	398	4,441	5,198	5,381	5,095	5,027	4,859
Idaho	96	112	106	1,215	923	1,074	963	957	964
Illinois	2,075	2,147	2,069	14,973	14,670	16,719	15,337	15,824	16,055
Indiana	893	833	870	6,724	8,073	9,181	7,095	7,045	7,022
Iowa	845	818	666	5,863	5,883	6,774	5,712	5,800	5,799
Kansas	598	542	520	6,576	7,248	6,963	5,295	5,192	5,000
Kentucky	447	337	373	3,026	3,636	3,509	3,391	3,381	3,333
Louisiana	682	573	603	6,292	7,347	8,303	7,908	7,763	7,595
Maine	191	200	127	857	961	978	869	945	966
Maryland	718	486	517	4,447	4,882	5,764	5,368	5,346	5,364
Massachusetts	639	520	560	4,180	5,239	5,848	5,111	5,000	5,041
Michigan	1,922	1,798	1,823	13,076	13,991	16,215	14,913	14,787	14,611
Minnesota	801	730	623	5,500	5,838	5,515	5,257	5,434	5,542
Mississippi	267	195	245	1,732	1,972	1,977	2,017	2,033	2,126
Missouri	879	822	799	7,556	7,824	7,646	6,914	7,013	6,959
Montana	138	160	155	1,019	951	1,405	1,353	1,344	1,330
Nebraska	317	343	345	3,724	3,485	3,352	2,669	2,665	2,649
Nevada	58	49	40	842	737	616	551	552	550
New Hampshire	105	68	82	827	1,147	926	640	637	646
New Jersey	1,082	824	861	9,164	9,337	9,428	8,405	8,220	8,186
New Mexico	236	225	177	2,111	1,996	2,086	2,129	2,190	2,198
New York	2,803	2,157	2,208	20,290	19,399	20,400	19,498	19,418	19,438
North Carolina	590	404	473	4,009	4,414	4,384	4,599	4,615	4,729
North Dakota	479	317	188	1,161	1,150	1,294	1,718	1,855	1,923
Ohio	2,389	1,956	2,002	16,003	17,320	17,554	17,873	17,917	17,559
Oklahoma	570	567	497	4,364	4,785	4,815	4,846	4,991	5,009
Oregon	272	258	249	2,081	2,398	2,565	2,543	2,513	2,522
Pennsylvania	2,084	1,570	1,530	15,108	16,077	15,445	14,915	14,721	14,589
Rhode Island	120	81	86	685	822	819	749	747	759
South Carolina	219	162	197	1,993	2,461	2,359	2,078	2,066	2,075
South Dakota	138	127	110	1,116	1,221	1,374	1,194	1,128	1,067
Tennessee	480	401	456	4,683	5,088	4,843	4,521	4,456	4,356
Texas	1,917	1,571	1,718	19,081	20,781	20,953	19,792	19,740	19,598
Utah	197	184	186	1,508	1,835	2,010	1,871	1,827	1,802
Vermont	51	33	39	242	294	334	317	311	311
Virginia	639	466	527	4,474	4,801	5,419	5,486	5,472	5,577
Washington	564	499	525	5,684	5,656	4,677	4,728	4,762	4,837
West Virginia	294	232	244	2,379	2,053	1,937	2,161	2,181	2,220
Wisconsin	1,006	852	835	5,840	5,977	6,768	6,477	6,687	6,769
Wyoming	81	97	72	585	578	655	644	676	677

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce from data reported by Department of Interior (Bureau of Mines).

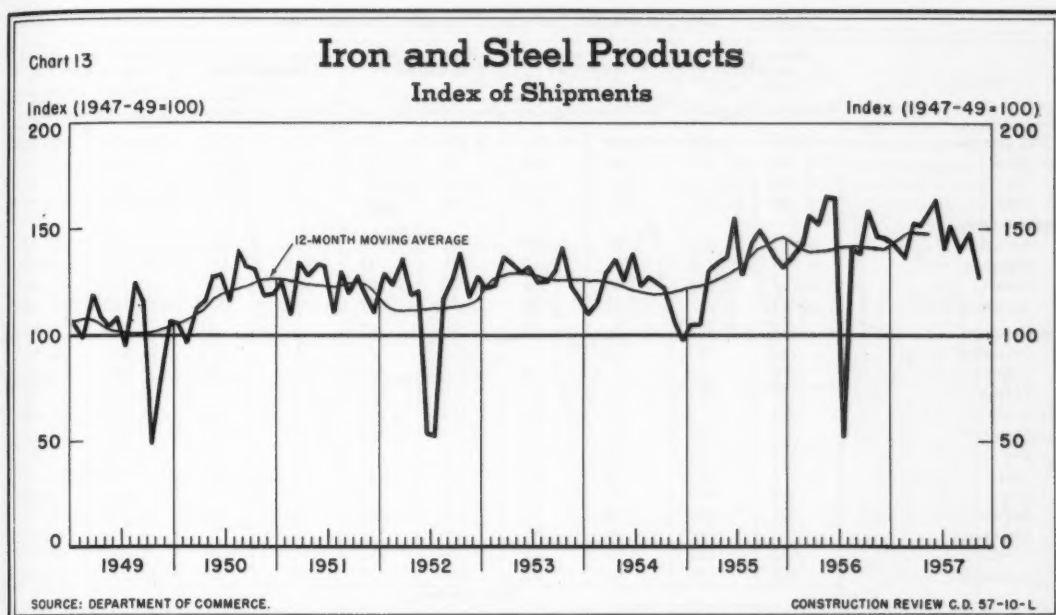


Table F-6: Iron and Steel Products: Shipments, Bookings, and Backlog

(Thousands of tons)

Period	Shipments									Shipments	Bookings	Backlog ¹	
	Line pipe	Concrete reinforcing bars	Galvanized sheets	Nails	Piling	Rails	Cast-iron pipe		Rigid steel conduit				Fabricated structural steel
							Pressure	Soil					
1947-49 average	1,975	1,523	1,669	797	309	2,167	1,075	604	226	2,248	2,105	--	
Year: 1954	2,595	1,751	2,363	567	388	1,196	1,376	744	227	3,136	2,510	743	
1955	3,083	2,164	2,865	651	391	1,233	1,682	869	280	2,981	3,693	1,029	
1956	3,377	2,518	2,958	559	433	1,300	1,745	817	359	3,205	4,012	1,313	
12 months ending:													
August 1957	4,133	2,674	2,677	501	589	1,504	1,475	751	355	3,558	3,375	--	
September 1957	4,247	2,636	2,604	481	586	1,466	1,444	749	358	3,612	3,323	--	
October 1957	4,266	2,549	2,538	467	588	1,414	1,395	750	361	3,655	3,209	--	
November 1957	4,242	2,441	2,473	457	580	1,360	1,370	749	358	3,672	3,058	--	
1956: November	322	250	255	36	47	118	116	60	27	276	339	1,267	
December	331	240	239	29	49	131	92	54	27	298	404	1,313	
1957: January	361	224	236	42	41	133	101	57	27	262	298	1,332	
February	304	235	205	35	51	117	89	48	28	278	266	1,321	
March	370	240	207	42	54	132	108	59	33	305	289	1,289	
April	381	216	199	40	56	136	129	63	22	314	360	1,311	
May	392	188	207	43	46	144	142	69	25	330	292	1,350	
June	370	233	239	59	52	126	131	71	38	329	220	1,277	
July	352	172	167	31	52	115	107	60	46	304	203	1,335	
August	376	192	187	37	49	93	138	73	31	333	167	1,282	
September	355	196	184	35	42	90	120	64	27	295	194	1,249	
October	352	163	213	38	49	79	122	72	30	331	177	1,213	
November	298	142	190	26	39	64	91	59	24	293	188	1,175	
Percent change													
November, 1956-57	- 7	-43	-25	-27	-16	-46	-22	- 2	-10	+ 6	-45	- 7	
First 11 mos., 1956-57	+28	- 3	-18	-19	+39	+ 5	-23	- 9	(2)	+16	-26	--	

Source: Table compiled by the Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the American Iron and Steel Institute, the National Electric Manufacturers Association, the American Institute of Steel Construction, and the Bureau of the Census. ¹ Scheduled for fabrication in the next 4 months.

² Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table F-7: Clay Construction Products: Production and Shipments

Period	Brick, common and face (Million brick)		Structural clay tile (Thousand tons)		Vitrified clay sewer pipe (Thousand tons)		Hollow facing tile (Million brick equivalent)		Glazed & unglazed floor & wall tile (Thousand square feet)	
	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments
1947-49 average	5,504	5,324	1,286	1,231	1,451	1,375	357	341	104,800	101,088
Year: 1954	6,720	6,657	981	908	1,763	1,703	481	464	177,988	176,253
1955	7,302	7,741	935	929	2,112	2,056	534	522	233,001	232,802
1956	8,085	7,382	862	750	2,154	2,039	576	535	245,996	227,369
12 months ending:										
August 1957	6,891	6,464	733	655	2,014	1,779	493	466	200,220	192,243
September 1957	6,808	6,404	707	639	1,967	1,743	488	463	197,973	190,728
October 1957	6,706	6,344	686	620	1,929	1,703	487	461	195,369	190,101
November 1957	6,501	6,252	661	601	1,876	1,663	488	463	193,640	188,880
1956: November	738	570	71	58	198	157	42	39	18,943	17,530
December	543	438	62	51	180	120	41	33	16,308	13,936
1957: January	459	329	57	48	164	107	38	34	15,449	14,422
February	420	388	53	46	146	110	36	33	13,726	12,602
March	491	476	61	54	152	132	33	34	14,810	15,048
April	561	548	55	50	151	138	38	37	15,663	15,873
May	592	613	57	54	160	151	39	39	16,517	16,485
June	577	567	58	56	150	152	41	41	16,050	16,157
July	593	609	62	58	154	154	45	44	15,465	15,939
August	625	634	54	51	158	169	45	43	16,957	17,503
September	584	570	46	46	144	150	41	39	16,654	16,529
October	612	602	50	49	173	165	47	45	18,827	18,277
November	533	478	46	39	145	117	43	41	17,214	16,309
Percent change										
November, 1956-57	-18	-16	-36	-33	-27	-25	+ 2	+ 3	- 9	- 7
First 11 mos., 1956-57	-20	-16	-25	-21	-14	-20	-16	-14	-23	-18

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDISA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census.

Table F-8: Clay Construction Products: Production and Shipments, by Census Region¹

Census region	PRODUCTION				SHIPMENTS			
	1957				1957			
	Nov.	Oct.	Sept.	Aug.	Nov.	Oct.	Sept.	Aug.
Brick, common and face (thousands)								
U. S. TOTAL	532,650	611,704	583,681	625,020	478,223	602,404	569,602	634,291
New England	10,936	10,138	13,702	14,621	10,904	14,309	12,656	13,794
Middle Atlantic	88,998	101,911	91,670	94,677	86,190	105,589	92,945	102,537
East North Central	123,343	145,541	142,777	143,214	106,403	139,663	140,790	149,315
West North Central	29,605	32,493	30,334	31,301	23,727	30,783	30,266	33,136
South Atlantic	121,165	136,778	124,982	140,828	106,214	135,501	121,595	143,074
East South Central	54,429	64,227	58,257	64,456	50,823	63,977	58,431	68,848
West South Central	58,402	64,803	62,097	66,431	48,744	60,956	60,277	69,839
Mountain	25,297	26,905	27,485	28,359	24,167	27,033	26,613	27,841
Pacific	20,475	28,908	32,377	41,133	21,051	24,593	26,029	25,907
Structural clay tile (tons)								
U. S. TOTAL	45,805	49,628	46,081	54,320	38,727	49,266	45,825	50,904
Middle Atlantic	6,661	7,468	6,929	6,851	7,137	7,530	7,463	7,336
East North Central	3,067	3,591	2,542	5,243	1,982	3,015	2,804	4,388
West North Central	7,749	8,246	7,126	9,912	5,915	9,452	7,444	8,424
South Atlantic	8,776	8,600	7,050	9,254	6,804	8,296	7,433	8,926
East South Central	1,082	1,539	1,252	1,460	1,265	1,466	1,070	1,496
West South Central	15,876	17,337	17,064	19,723	12,644	16,271	16,790	18,186
Mountain & Pacific	2,394	2,847	4,118	1,877	2,980	3,236	2,821	2,148
Vitrified clay sewer pipe (tons)								
U. S. TOTAL	145,230	173,215	143,587	157,908	117,111	164,643	150,045	168,799
Middle Atlantic	15,632	14,827	12,448	13,878	11,861	16,129	15,555	15,418
East North Central	51,816	69,514	53,832	62,630	46,571	67,665	58,782	71,049
West North Central	14,468	18,563	16,224	18,064	11,326	18,007	15,705	20,106
South Atlantic	16,022	16,618	12,439	12,829	13,796	14,962	11,886	12,531
E. & W. South Central	20,394	24,361	20,821	20,069	14,241	21,972	19,074	23,697
Mountain	3,299	3,511	4,386	4,518	2,949	3,711	4,131	3,724
Pacific	23,599	25,821	23,437	25,920	16,367	22,197	24,912	22,274

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDISA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census. regions and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown below table A-2.

¹ Composition of

Chart 14

Heating and Plumbing Equipment

Index of Shipments

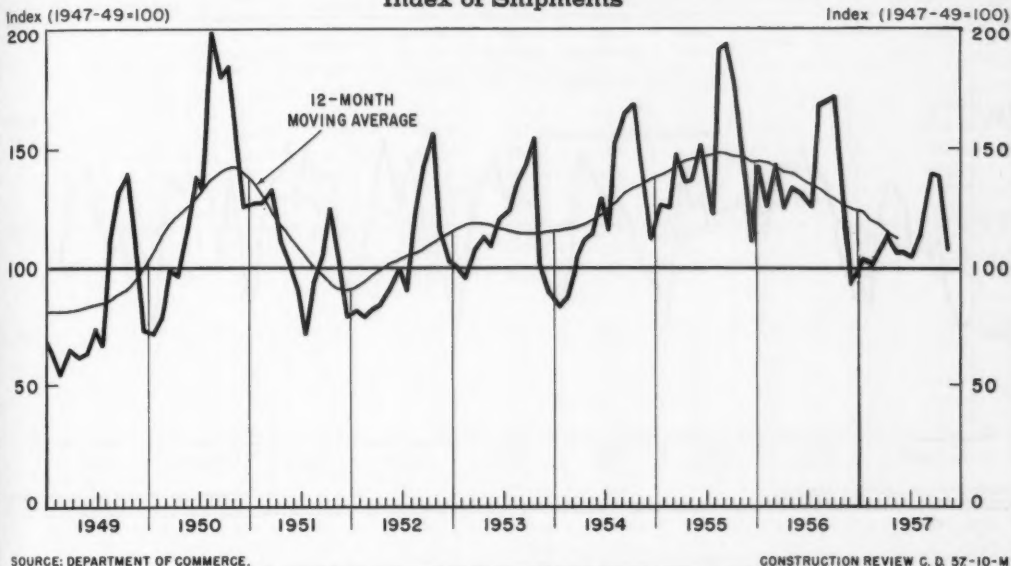


Table F-9: Heating and Plumbing Equipment: Shipments and Stocks

Period	Gas water heaters (Thousands of units)		C. I. convectors and radiators (Thousand square feet)		Warm air furnaces (Thousands of units)		Floor and wall furnaces (Thousands of units)		Residential oil burners. ¹ (Thousands of units)
	Shipments	Stocks*	Shipments	Stocks*	Shipments	Stocks*	Shipments	Stocks*	Shipments
1947-49 average	1,818	67	50,980	4,377	794	69	552	44	541
Year: 1954	2,445	103	28,941	5,434	1,152	130	610	74	516
1955	2,634	188	30,863	4,884	1,406	208	615	73	610
1956	2,712	134	29,567	3,810	1,355	218	492	70	532
12 months ending:									
August 1957	2,486	--	26,761	--	1,143	--	438	--	459
September 1957	2,476	--	25,962	--	1,118	--	435	--	437
October 1957	2,477	--	24,579	--	1,101	--	434	--	410
November 1957	2,461	--	23,766	--	1,085	--	431	--	394
1956: November	185	82	2,808	4,074	107	214	45	63	44
December	156	90	1,905	3,878	76	218	29	70	28
1957: January	210	76	1,712	4,139	76	195	30	67	30
February	202	78	1,797	4,362	67	207	31	60	27
March	222	62	1,803	4,750	75	214	27	63	26
April	233	59	1,723	4,887	74	228	29	61	30
May	228	61	1,507	5,435	74	235	26	63	30
June	206	90	2,230	5,163	85	232	30	63	34
July	188	89	1,769	4,745	86	229	32	69	34
August	206	90	2,123	4,896	115	199	39	72	40
September	211	77	2,551	4,571	141	177	54	65	43
October	231	71	2,651	4,027	126	157	62	55	45
November	169	69	1,995	3,510	91	156	42	53	28
Percent change									
September, 1956-57	- 9	-17	-29	-14	-14	-27	- 7	-15	-37
First 11 mos., 1956-57	-10	--	-21	--	-21	--	-13	--	-27

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census. * As of end of period. Sold separately.

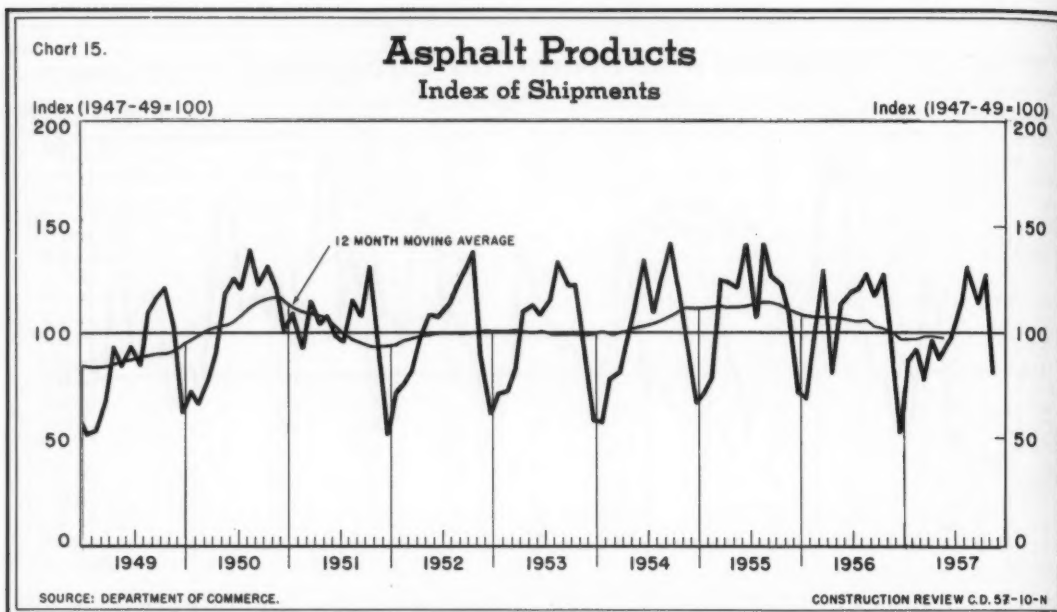


Table F-10: Imports and Exports of Selected Construction Materials

Item	Unit of quantity	IMPORTS				EXPORTS			
		Year		First 9 months		Year		First 9 months	
		1955	1956	1956	1957	1955	1956	1956	1957
LUMBER, MILLWORK, & WOOD PRODUCTS:									
Softwoods	MM bd. ft.	3,326	3,165	2,408	2,014	621	545	391	486
Hardwood flooring*.....	M bd. ft.	6,783	4,667	3,610	2,777	22,768	18,430	14,199	14,276
Wood doors	Units	250,070	209,911	171,433	89,163	36,687	44,559	34,644	34,312
Wood window sash ¹	Units	--	--	--	--	20,084	14,641	7,701	29,695
Wallboard	Tons	1,430	3,426	2,647	1,868	6,337	6,735	5,209	5,083
Hardboard*.....	Tons	39,681	56,221	46,431	44,269	--	--	--	--
Insulating wall board	Tons	7,518	10,710	9,326	5,967	19,777	22,423	16,435	15,726
Insulation, flexible, wood & vegetable fiber ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	1,129	852	569	539
Softwood plywood, interior ¹	M sq. ft.	8,811	10,173	7,406	2,026	3,977	5,618	4,580	4,602
Softwood plywood, exterior ¹	M sq. ft.					4,144	9,127	6,218	6,578
CEMENT, GYPSUM, & ASBESTOS:									
Portland cement.....	M bbls.	4,748	3,973	3,395	3,597	1,429	1,627	1,321	878
Asbestos construction materials.....	Tons	17,857	29,623	18,839	16,339	16,395	19,077	16,133	14,044
Gypsum board and lath ¹	M sq. ft.	--	--	--	--	8,687	7,027	5,444	6,131
Asphalt tile ¹	M sq. yds.	--	--	--	--	2,683	1,977	1,528	1,619
IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS:									
Cast-iron pipe, pressure	Tons	182	1,939	1,503	383	18,900	24,800	20,795	29,394
Cast-iron pipe, soil	Tons	8,349	5,339	3,923	4,056	5,250	6,005	4,641	6,543
Concrete reinforcing bars.....	Tons	156,968	173,028	116,777	127,111	73,968	97,301	74,999	75,096
Steel piling	Tons	5,365	32,615	18,353	29,459	9,612	9,496	7,876	15,115
Rails	Tons	6,278	7,437	4,265	3,450	57,650	68,046	24,060	132,953
Line pipe ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	72,380	381,243	237,726	472,356
Fabricated structural steel ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	87,690	84,315	63,705	156,901
Gas water heaters ¹	Units	--	--	--	--	30,436	32,524	24,112	29,792
CLAY PRODUCTS:									
Clay building and paving bricks	M brick	8,466	6,036	4,614	3,024	53,397	53,393	44,782	30,217
Clay floor and wall tiles	M sq. ft.	16,258	23,481	18,557	12,115	6,749	6,186	4,528	3,407
Hollow building tile ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	20,300	25,225	20,504	10,699
Clay sewer pipe and drain tile ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	7,610	9,034	8,123	3,380

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census. *Imports include only maple (except Japanese), birch, and beech. **Exports data not available. ¹Data for imports not available in same detail as for exports.

(NOTE: Table F-11, Plumbing Fixtures: Production, Shipments, and Stocks, is shown quarterly in the March, June, September, and December issues.)

Part G—Employment

51

Table G-1: Contract Construction: Employment by Type of Contractor

Period	All contractors	Building contractors							Nonbuilding contractors		
		All building contractors	General contractors	Special trades contractors					All non-building	Highway and street	Other non-building
				All special trades	Plumbing and heating	Painting and decorating	Electrical work	Other trades			
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (in thousands)											
Year: 1948.....	2,169.0	1,753.0	807.0	946.0	238.2	124.9	123.2	459.8	416.0	172.1	243.8
1949.....	2,165.0	1,736.0	779.0	957.0	241.7	123.4	122.1	469.5	428.0	178.1	250.3
1950.....	2,333.0	1,885.0	844.0	1,041.0	263.1	130.8	123.4	524.0	448.0	183.0	265.2
1951.....	2,603.0	2,109.0	957.6	1,151.7	286.9	155.7	140.5	568.7	493.0	201.3	291.9
1952.....	2,634.0	2,119.0	948.3	1,170.8	287.7	156.5	155.7	570.9	514.0	209.4	305.0
1953.....	2,622.0	2,109.0	934.0	1,175.1	288.9	148.1	159.7	578.4	513.0	214.9	297.8
1954.....	2,593.0	2,090.0	885.7	1,204.0	295.7	143.8	164.4	600.1	503.0	217.4	285.6
1955.....	2,759.0	2,243.0	922.6	1,320.8	317.0	162.3	168.4	673.1	516.0	232.4	284.0
1956.....	2,993.0	2,387.0	995.1	1,391.8	334.0	179.5	198.1	680.2	606.0	263.3	342.6
1956: Nov.....	3,174.0	2,527.0	1,054.7	1,472.5	351.1	192.0	226.4	703.0	647.0	274.1	372.8
Dec.....	2,997.0	2,417.0	1,001.6	1,415.5	345.7	176.4	228.7	664.7	580.0	233.3	346.9
1957: Jan.....	2,667.0	2,165.0	885.7	1,279.5	335.1	151.5	223.2	569.7	502.0	191.5	310.4
Feb.....	2,673.0	2,177.0	878.2	1,298.5	331.5	148.9	221.0	597.1	496.0	184.9	310.6
Mar.....	2,756.0	2,242.0	898.7	1,343.5	331.8	159.0	219.5	633.0	514.0	199.9	314.1
Apr.....	2,906.0	2,334.0	944.6	1,389.5	334.6	176.5	218.2	660.2	572.0	237.3	334.7
May.....	3,082.0	2,419.0	977.5	1,441.1	333.7	190.5	223.5	693.4	663.0	296.2	366.3
June.....	3,232.0	2,518.0	1,005.5	1,512.5	342.7	205.2	237.2	727.4	714.0	321.5	392.0
July.....	3,275.0	2,547.0	1,039.8	1,507.1	332.6	226.5	241.2	706.8	728.0	331.0	397.4
Aug.....	3,305.0	2,567.0	1,030.2	1,537.0	344.2	226.6	242.7	723.5	738.0	340.4	397.4
Sept.....	3,285.0	2,555.0	1,009.6	1,545.4	351.8	223.0	240.2	730.4	730.0	333.8	396.4
Oct.....	3,224.0	2,509.0	980.3	1,528.2	350.4	211.8	237.1	728.9	715.0	320.2	395.0
Nov.....	3,059.0	2,407.0	936.2	1,470.5	339.6	199.0	231.8	700.1	652.0	275.0	376.5
Dec.....	*2,833.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Percent change											
Oct.-Nov., 1957	-5.1	-4.1	-4.5	-3.8	-3.1	-6.0	-2.2	-4.0	-8.8	-14.1	-4.7
Nov., 1956-57 ...	-3.6	-4.7	-11.2	-1	-3.3	+3.6	+2.4	-4	+8	+3	+1.0

Source: Department of Labor.

* Percent change: Nov.-Dec. 1957, -7.4; Dec. 1956-57, -5.5. ¹ Not yet available.

Table G-2: Contract Construction: Number of Employees and Indexes of Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual average
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (in thousands, seasonally adjusted)													
1948.....	2,120	2,015	2,065	2,105	2,136	2,184	2,199	2,212	2,220	2,229	2,249	2,251	2,169
1949.....	2,222	2,171	2,146	2,128	2,124	2,130	2,157	2,176	2,197	2,192	2,190	2,141	2,165
1950.....	2,119	2,101	2,105	2,173	2,236	2,337	2,405	2,451	2,473	2,502	2,517	2,471	2,333
1951.....	2,526	2,521	2,569	2,593	2,596	2,613	2,633	2,641	2,630	2,653	2,606	2,620	2,603
1952.....	2,599	2,624	2,588	2,586	2,597	2,645	2,658	2,672	2,682	2,648	2,650	2,632	2,634
1953.....	2,647	2,669	2,653	2,638	2,613	2,598	2,588	2,596	2,612	2,632	2,623	2,626	2,622
1954.....	2,533	2,583	2,600	2,614	2,603	2,599	2,591	2,594	2,586	2,584	2,618	2,615	2,593
1955.....	2,624	2,618	2,703	2,759	2,813	2,823	2,829	2,813	2,810	2,777	2,760	2,750	2,759
1956.....	2,768	2,802	2,834	2,902	2,985	3,113	3,043	3,083	3,080	3,080	3,067	3,074	2,993
1957.....	2,963	3,020	3,062	3,059	3,097	3,108	3,061	3,032	3,028	3,013	2,956	2,906	
INDEXES (1947-49=100) OF EMPLOYMENT (seasonally adjusted) ¹													
1948.....	100.7	95.7	98.1	100.0	101.5	103.8	104.5	105.1	105.5	105.9	106.8	106.9	103.0
1949.....	105.6	103.1	101.9	101.1	100.9	101.2	102.5	103.4	104.4	104.1	104.0	101.7	102.9
1950.....	100.7	99.8	100.0	103.2	106.2	111.0	114.3	116.4	117.5	118.9	119.6	117.4	110.8
1951.....	120.0	119.8	122.0	123.2	123.3	124.1	125.1	125.5	124.9	126.0	123.8	124.5	123.7
1952.....	123.5	124.7	122.9	122.9	123.4	125.7	126.3	126.9	127.4	125.8	125.9	125.0	125.1
1953.....	125.7	126.8	126.0	125.3	124.1	123.4	122.9	123.3	124.1	125.0	124.6	124.8	124.6
1954.....	120.3	122.7	123.5	124.2	123.7	123.5	123.1	123.2	122.9	122.8	124.4	124.2	123.2
1955.....	124.7	124.4	128.4	131.1	133.6	134.1	134.4	133.6	133.5	131.9	131.1	130.6	131.1
1956.....	131.5	133.1	134.6	137.9	141.8	147.9	144.6	146.5	146.3	145.7	145.7	146.0	142.2
1957.....	140.8	143.5	145.5	145.3	147.1	147.6	145.4	144.0	143.8	143.1	140.4	138.1	

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Indexes for months before January 1953 are based on seasonally adjusted employment data derived by the Federal Reserve Board.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table G-3: Contract Construction: Employment, by State

State	Number of employees (in thousands)											Percent change, Nov. 1956-57
	1957									1954	1955	1956
	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Nov.	Nov.	Nov.	Nov.
Alabama ¹	42.6	43.3	44.2	43.4	44.0	41.3	40.4	40.1	32.0	34.7	44.7	-10
Arizona.....	21.4	21.2	21.5	22.3	23.0	23.4	23.7	23.6	18.7	20.4	22.4	+5
Arkansas.....	15.0	17.0	18.3	20.8	21.5	21.1	20.2	18.1	14.9	16.1	15.6	+16
California.....	272.5	277.5	284.5	266.4	261.8	282.6	283.2	277.8	255.4	263.0	292.3	-5
Colorado.....	28.7	30.4	34.7	35.5	36.0	36.0	35.1	33.1	27.2	31.8	32.5	+2
Connecticut ²	45.7	49.9	52.5	53.1	55.1	54.7	53.8	53.7	43.4	48.9	52.4	+2
Delaware.....	12.7	12.6	12.4	11.9	12.3	12.2	12.3	11.9	11.0	15.3	17.2	-31
District of Columbia ¹	17.0	17.2	17.1	17.1	17.2	17.1	17.0	16.7	17.2	17.4	17.5	-5
Florida.....	107.9	108.9	111.8	114.1	117.9	119.2	119.0	117.5	90.3	108.3	118.4	-1
Georgia.....	54.2	55.2	58.3	59.1	60.6	58.3	57.9	55.3	47.3	51.1	54.7	+1
Idaho.....	9.2	10.1	10.8	11.2	9.9	9.8	10.0	9.5	8.9	9.3	10.0	-5
Illinois.....	193.4	203.8	213.2	218.8	220.5	217.6	213.5	206.4	172.3	177.6	197.4	+5
Indiana.....	66.7	71.5	73.8	78.1	80.3	78.9	79.4	76.3	62.0	76.9	74.3	+3
Iowa.....	34.6	37.0	41.3	42.8	42.0	42.2	39.7	37.6	35.6	37.6	39.3	-4
Kansas.....	32.9	34.6	38.4	41.9	43.6	42.1	41.4	38.9	36.0	39.9	35.4	+10
Kentucky ³	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Louisiana.....	69.0	66.6	69.5	72.0	72.6	71.6	70.2	70.2	48.8	53.0	65.3	+8
Maine.....	10.6	13.1	14.7	15.0	14.7	14.5	14.4	13.5	15.6	14.5	14.6	-8
Maryland.....	56.8	62.3	70.1	72.5	72.2	71.3	70.6	68.2	60.0	67.6	73.0	-7
Massachusetts.....	78.9	84.7	87.7	89.9	91.0	89.9	89.3	85.6	76.1	84.0	87.9	-3
Michigan.....	106.3	113.1	112.2	115.2	117.2	119.0	117.8	109.7	125.4	123.7	125.0	-12
Minnesota.....	47.5	56.9	61.3	67.1	69.2	67.8	64.7	58.2	58.1	59.3	56.9	+2
Mississippi.....	14.9	16.3	16.3	16.9	17.6	17.9	17.9	17.2	16.7	17.4	16.1	+7
Missouri.....	67.1	67.8	69.3	72.2	74.0	72.7	71.3	68.6	67.9	75.7	73.8	-7
Montana.....	10.7	13.5	14.4	15.1	15.2	15.5	14.1	12.1	12.2	10.2	12.6	-4
Nebraska.....	19.1	19.7	21.4	22.2	21.8	21.5	21.0	20.0	23.1	22.0	21.3	-6
Nevada.....	7.4	8.5	8.4	8.2	8.2	7.8	7.4	6.5	9.0	8.6	6.2	+5
New Hampshire.....	7.9	9.1	10.0	10.5	10.5	10.3	10.3	9.5	10.2	10.4	9.9	-4
New Jersey.....	107.7	108.8	108.9	112.6	112.7	113.5	112.4	105.0	99.6	109.3	112.2	-6
New Mexico.....	16.1	15.4	15.9	16.0	15.6	15.8	15.7	15.7	14.8	14.4	16.1	-2
New York.....	249.7	265.8	275.1	276.1	277.4	280.1	276.6	265.2	240.9	255.6	263.8	+1
North Carolina.....	52.9	54.3	55.5	56.1	55.4	54.5	53.7	52.9	49.8	56.4	58.3	-9
North Dakota.....	7.9	10.8	12.5	13.7	14.1	13.9	13.1	10.9	10.3	9.3	10.3	+6
Ohio.....	160.6	173.3	179.9	187.9	195.7	190.6	184.8	171.0	173.0	165.5	172.7	-1
Oklahoma ¹	31.9	32.9	34.4	35.5	36.3	35.9	34.6	34.0	30.7	34.0	31.8	+7
Oregon.....	21.3	22.6	24.2	25.8	26.5	26.5	24.5	22.5	22.9	22.3	24.4	-8
Pennsylvania.....	168.2	178.1	184.5	184.2	188.2	188.0	185.4	177.6	179.8	185.0	189.3	-6
Rhode Island.....	19.1	17.4	19.2	20.0	19.3	19.1	18.1	18.4	17.2	17.0	17.8	+3
South Carolina.....	28.7	28.5	28.6	28.9	28.9	28.7	27.9	28.2	31.2	28.4	28.1	(4)
South Dakota ¹	8.2	9.7	11.3	11.6	11.7	10.6	9.8	8.4	9.8	9.7	10.3	-18
Tennessee.....	39.9	41.4	42.1	43.5	43.3	42.3	42.3	39.7	54.3	43.7	42.5	-7
Texas.....	161.4	160.5	169.3	174.5	174.4	171.1	167.2	155.2	149.2	158.1	168.4	-8
Utah.....	15.4	16.8	18.1	19.2	18.3	17.3	16.4	15.7	13.5	15.5	16.3	-4
Vermont.....	4.0	4.8	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.4	4.7	5.0	5.0	+8
Virginia.....	69.8	73.2	74.4	75.9	75.9	74.4	71.8	69.3	58.0	62.7	68.6	+1
Washington.....	43.9	44.5	45.4	46.9	48.4	47.5	46.7	43.1	49.1	42.1	47.0	-8
West Virginia.....	24.6	25.8	26.8	27.9	28.9	29.4	29.9	28.8	17.5	21.9	24.9	+16
Wisconsin.....	52.4	57.5	58.7	64.2	65.5	64.8	62.3	59.2	56.7	59.6	60.6	-2
Wyoming.....	5.9	6.6	8.1	8.7	8.9	8.4	7.4	7.1	6.6	6.6	6.8	+4

Source: Department of Labor. ¹Data revised from January 1956; revised statistics for months not shown here are available on request. ²Includes a small number of employees in mining. ³Not available. ⁴Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

Table G-4: Contract Construction: Employment in Selected Areas

Area	Number of employees (in thousands)											Percent change, Nov. 1956-57
	1957								1954	1955	1956	
	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Nov.	Nov.	Nov.	
Albany-Schenectady-Troy, N. Y.	7.7	8.6	8.7	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.6	8.2	7.6	7.4	8.3	- 1
Albuquerque, N. Mex.	5.0	4.9	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.4	+11
Atlanta, Ga. ¹	19.2	19.6	21.0	21.0	21.9	20.8	20.3	19.7	17.9	19.4	18.8	+ 5
Baltimore, Md.	34.2	38.0	42.8	44.3	44.2	43.9	43.9	42.7	37.5	42.1	45.8	- 7
Baton Rouge, La.	7.6	8.1	8.0	8.9	9.0	9.4	9.5	9.5	5.6	5.3	7.0	+36
Binghamton, N. Y.	2.3	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.1	2.8	3.0	3.0	+ 3
Birmingham, Ala.	13.7	14.4	14.9	15.1	15.1	9.7	8.9	8.9	9.9	11.2	13.5	-34
Boise, Idaho	1.7	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.8	0
Boston, Mass.	46.2	49.2	51.2	52.8	52.4	52.0	51.1	50.0	43.5	46.2	51.2	- 2
Bridgeport, Conn. ²	5.9	6.4	6.7	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.1	5.6	6.2	6.2	+15
Buffalo, N. Y.	20.4	22.9	23.8	25.3	27.3	26.3	26.4	24.5	20.8	20.5	23.9	+ 3
Casper, Wyo.	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.7	1.5	1.3	1.6	+69
Charleston, S. C. ³	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.2	3.5	3.3	3.8	3.7	2.8	3.7	3.7	0
Charleston, W. Va.	4.8	5.1	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.1	4.6	4.1	5.1	0
Charlotte, N. C.	8.3	8.7	9.0	9.3	9.1	9.3	9.0	9.1	6.9	9.0	9.3	- 2
Chattanooga, Tenn.	3.3	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.3	4.8	4.1	3.6	- 8
Chicago, Ill.	128.3	133.0	138.2	141.4	143.1	139.0	136.9	134.7	112.8	122.8	136.1	- 1
Denver, Colo.	17.3	17.5	20.4	21.2	21.7	21.5	21.1	20.5	17.5	19.5	21.0	- 2
Des Moines, Iowa	4.9	5.1	5.8	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.2	5.8	5.2	4.8	5.1	+14
Detroit, Mich.	60.6	64.3	64.6	65.2	66.0	66.1	67.0	62.5	71.9	70.8	71.1	-12
Duluth, Minn.	3.0	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.5	3.3	2.7	2.6	3.3	0
Evansville, Ind. ⁴	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2	3.5	4.2	4.3	- 2
Fargo, N. D.	1.7	2.3	2.7	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.2	+18
Fort Wayne, Ind.	2.8	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.7	3.4	- 3
Great Falls, Mont.	1.6	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.2	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.8	-17
Harrisburg, Pa.	6.8	7.2	7.7	8.1	8.8	8.7	9.0	9.2	7.6	7.3	7.7	+19
Hartford, Conn. ²	9.9	10.8	11.7	11.7	12.7	12.4	12.0	11.8	9.9	9.9	11.0	+ 7
Huntington-Ashland, W. Va.*	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.2	3.3	(5)	3.4	3.6	- 8
Indianapolis, Ind.	12.9	13.2	13.4	14.4	14.5	14.7	14.5	14.0	11.4	13.4	14.5	- 3
Jackson, Miss.	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.2	3.7	(5)	4.7	3.8	- 3
Jacksonville, Fla.	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.4	9.8	9.7	9.7	9.2	10.1	9.2	9.6	- 4
Kansas City, Mo.	17.2	16.4	15.8	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	21.3	20.7	19.2	--
Knoxville, Tenn.	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.1	16.6	6.7	7.5	-19
Lewiston, Maine	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.2	- 8
Little Rock-N. Little Rock, Ark.	4.3	4.7	5.0	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.2	5.7	5.4	5.6	4.9	+16
Los Angeles, Calif.	122.5	123.3	126.7	107.9	104.6	124.7	126.4	123.0	121.6	117.3	130.3	- 6
Louisville, Ky.	13.2	15.4	16.0	15.9	16.9	16.9	15.9	15.5	14.9	16.4	14.3	+ 8
Manchester, N. H.	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	0
Memphis, Tenn.	7.9	8.3	8.8	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.9	9.2	9.7	10.0	8.3	+11
Miami, Fla.	23.5	23.9	24.8	24.8	25.8	25.8	25.2	24.2	24.1	26.3	26.4	- 8
Milwaukee, Wis. ⁶	22.0	22.9	23.7	25.4	25.9	25.6	24.7	23.7	20.3	22.4	24.9	- 5
Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.	24.1	27.4	29.0	29.9	30.6	29.8	28.7	27.1	27.9	28.5	27.5	- 1
Mobile, Ala.	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.9	5.8	4.6	5.4	5.0	+16
Nashville, Tenn.	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.8	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.5	6.9	6.7	7.5	-13
New Bedford, Mass.	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	0
New Britain, Conn. ²	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.5	+13
New Haven, Conn. ²	7.8	8.2	8.7	9.2	9.4	9.4	9.2	9.0	6.3	7.3	8.0	+13
New Orleans, La.	20.3	20.2	20.0	20.1	20.2	20.0	20.0	20.0	18.2	16.2	16.8	+19
New York-Northeastern N. Jersey	231.6	241.2	242.6	235.7	236.2	240.8	239.5	227.7	220.4	237.0	239.0	- 5
Newark-Jersey City, N. J.	34.5	34.5	34.6	35.1	35.3	35.6	35.4	32.5	32.6	37.3	37.0	-12
Paterson, N. J.	26.0	27.7	27.8	28.2	28.5	29.7	29.9	27.9	25.5	26.6	26.9	+ 4
Perth Amboy, N. J.	8.6	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.3	7.9	7.4	6.5	8.2	8.9	9.8	-34
Nassau-Suffolk Counties, N. Y.	27.0	29.1	29.4	27.4	26.7	27.9	27.0	25.7	30.2	31.2	32.4	-21
New York, N. Y.	116.5	120.2	121.4	116.4	118.0	121.2	120.4	117.1	104.7	111.3	111.2	+ 5
Westchester County, N. Y.	16.9	19.1	18.8	18.1	17.4	16.6	17.5	16.2	17.0	18.7	19.2	-16

See footnotes at end of table.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table G-4: Contract Construction: Employment in Selected Areas--Continued

Area	Number of employees (in thousands)											Percent change, Nov. 1956-57
	1957								1954	1955	1956	
	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Nov.	Nov.	Nov.	
Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va.....	13.7	14.6	14.7	15.4	15.7	15.4	15.4	14.9	11.4	11.1	13.4	+11
Oklahoma City, Okla. ³	9.3	9.5	9.7	10.0	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.2	9.6	10.3	9.4	-2
Omaha, Nebr.	8.0	8.2	8.6	9.0	8.9	9.1	8.9	8.7	8.6	8.7	9.4	-7
Peoria, Ill.	4.7	4.6	4.9	5.2	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.1	4.9	5.1	-6
Phoenix, Ariz.	10.9	10.8	10.7	11.2	11.3	11.2	10.8	11.0	10.2	10.6	11.6	-5
Pittsburgh, Pa.	40.9	43.1	46.0	44.1	46.9	46.9	45.5	44.5	37.0	41.6	43.0	+3
Portland, Maine	3.3	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.2	-14
Portland, Oreg.	13.1	13.4	14.2	14.7	14.8	14.6	14.0	13.1	13.6	13.2	14.4	-9
Providence, R. I.	17.0	15.4	17.0	17.7	17.1	16.9	16.0	16.3	15.3	15.1	15.8	+3
Racine, Wis.	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.1	+5
Reno, Nev.	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.9	3.0	2.8	2.1	2.3	2.2	+27
Richmond, Va. ³	12.0	12.5	13.0	13.4	13.5	13.1	13.0	12.5	9.7	10.9	12.0	+4
Rochester, N. Y.	9.4	9.9	11.0	11.4	11.5	11.6	11.1	10.6	9.7	10.0	10.5	+1
Rockford, Ill. ²	3.9	3.9	4.4	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.7	(5)	3.4	4.4	4.3	--
Sacramento, Calif.	9.1	9.3	9.7	10.0	10.4	10.4	10.1	9.7	8.0	9.5	9.9	-2
St. Louis, Mo.	39.5	41.2	43.0	42.4	42.7	42.7	42.5	41.1	43.3	45.6	41.5	-1
Salt Lake City, Utah.....	8.1	8.9	9.1	9.3	9.3	9.2	8.7	8.2	8.2	9.0	8.7	-6
San Diego, Calif.	14.0	14.0	13.8	12.9	12.5	13.9	13.7	13.7	11.7	12.6	14.2	-4
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.	55.1	55.6	57.7	58.1	56.6	55.2	54.5	53.6	59.0	62.4	62.8	-15
San Jose, Calif.	9.8	9.8	10.2	10.5	11.0	10.7	10.8	10.7	9.3	10.5	11.4	-6
Savannah, Ga.	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2	2.6	2.9	3.9	+8
Seattle, Wash.	15.4	16.5	17.0	17.5	17.9	17.9	17.4	16.2	13.0	13.5	15.1	+7
Sioux Falls, S. D.	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	(5)	2.1	1.7	-6
South Bend, Ind.	2.9	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.6	3.5	-11
Spokane, Wash.	5.0	5.0	5.4	5.9	6.0	5.7	5.1	4.6	4.4	4.2	5.3	-13
Springfield-Holyoke, Mass.	6.7	7.4	7.6	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.6	7.2	6.7	8.4	8.4	-14
Stamford, Conn. ²	4.2	4.8	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.9	3.7	4.2	4.4	+11
Syracuse, N. Y.	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.3	6.9	7.1	6.7	7.7	-10
Tacoma, Wash.	4.8	4.8	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	4.8	3.3	4.1	4.8	0
Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla.	18.6	18.7	19.0	19.4	19.4	19.2	19.4	19.2	13.8	15.9	18.1	+6
Topeka, Kans.	4.0	4.7	5.5	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.4	5.7	2.9	3.4	4.1	+39
Trenton, N. J.	3.8	3.7	4.1	4.1	3.9	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.7	3.9	3.9	-21
Tucson, Ariz.	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.6	4.0	4.6	4.9	+14
Tulsa, Okla. ³	8.3	8.5	7.8	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.8	8.1	8.6	-10
Utica-Rome, N. Y.	3.0	3.6	4.2	5.0	5.5	5.2	4.8	4.3	3.7	3.5	3.6	+19
Washington, D. C. ³	38.5	39.3	38.8	39.1	39.1	38.7	38.6	38.0	40.0	43.5	41.5	-8
Waterbury, Conn. ²	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.0	3.0	2.3	+9
Wheeling-Steubenville, W. Va.	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.8	4.3	5.1	5.8	+17
Wichita, Kans.	6.8	7.2	7.6	7.7	8.1	7.9	7.6	6.9	8.1	8.0	7.4	-7
Wilmington, Del.	10.8	10.7	10.5	10.1	10.4	10.4	10.5	10.2	(5)	13.4	15.1	-32
Worcester, Mass.	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.8	5.1	-16

Source: Department of Labor.

* Shown for the first time in this issue. This table is expanded to include additional areas as data become available.

¹ Data from January 1956 not comparable with previous periods because area was redefined (and data correspondingly revised) to include Clayton Co. as well as Cobb, DeKalb, and Fulton Cos.² Includes a small number of employees in mining.³ Data revised from January 1956; revised statistics for months not shown here are available on request.⁴ Data from January 1955 not comparable with previous periods because area was redefined (and data correspondingly revised) to include Henderson Co., Ky., as well as Vanderburgh Co., Ind.⁵ Not available.⁶ Data from January 1956 not comparable with previous periods because area was redefined (and data correspondingly revised) to include Waukesha Co. as well as Milwaukee Co.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table G-5: Contract Construction: Indexes of Aggregate Weekly Man-Hours

(1947-49=100)

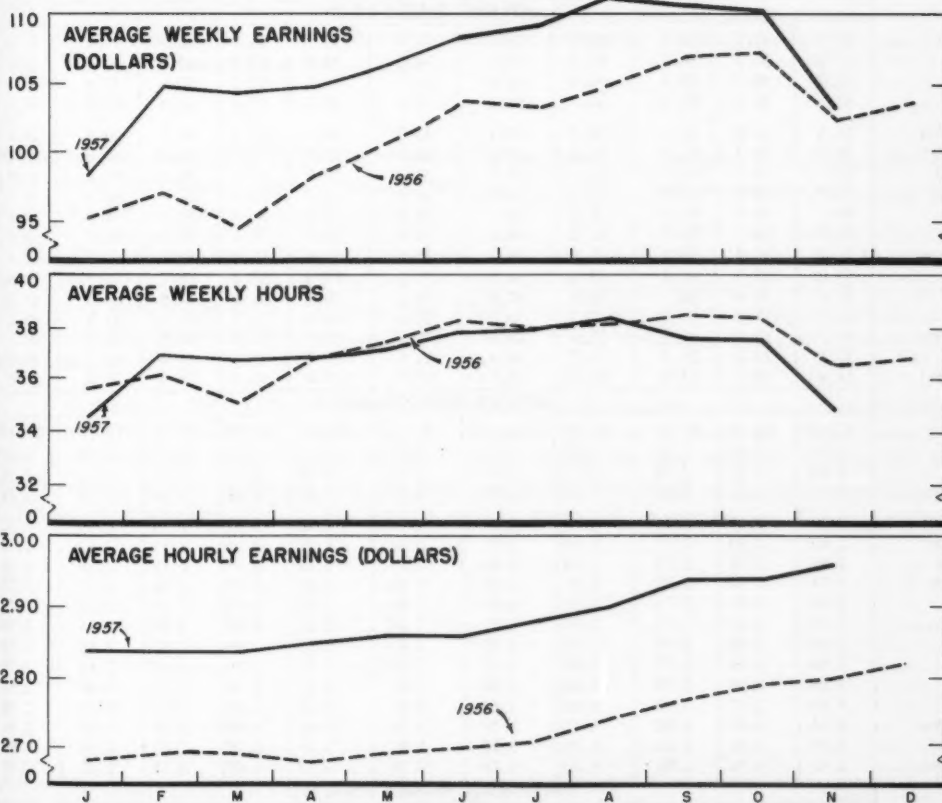
Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual average
1948.....	89.6	81.3	86.7	95.0	102.2	111.9	115.1	117.3	116.2	113.3	106.6	105.4	103.4
1949.....	94.2	88.9	89.2	95.0	103.1	106.8	110.5	114.2	111.5	111.4	104.4	94.9	102.0
1950.....	84.6	79.5	83.7	95.8	106.1	116.7	122.1	129.5	126.1	128.9	123.9	112.7	109.1
1951.....	106.4	99.3	105.4	116.9	126.4	131.8	137.7	141.1	138.5	139.8	124.2	121.6	124.1
1952.....	111.1	112.3	108.3	117.5	125.4	136.8	138.9	143.2	144.0	139.9	128.2	123.9	127.5
1953.....	109.1	108.7	109.1	115.8	122.6	130.4	132.0	137.2	131.7	136.7	126.7	117.2	123.1
1954.....	95.5	102.8	106.4	113.5	120.3	128.0	131.4	134.0	128.6	128.6	123.3	114.4	118.9
1955.....	101.4	98.6	108.4	115.8	129.8	137.0	144.0	144.3	146.6	138.3	125.6	121.1	125.9
1956.....	108.1	108.5	109.2	124.0	137.4	154.3	154.6	161.1	160.7	157.7	144.2	135.9	138.0
1957.....	112.0	119.8	123.0	131.1	141.4	151.5	154.1	157.4	153.9	149.6	130.9	122.7	

Source: Department of Labor.

Chart 16

Hours and Earnings of Workers

In Contract Construction



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW C. D. 57-10-0

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table G-6: Contract Construction: Hours and Gross Earnings of Construction Workers

Period	All construction	Building construction							Nonbuilding construction		
		All building contractors	General contractors	Special trades contractors					All non-building	Highway and street	Other non-building
				All special trades	Plumbing and heating	Painting and decorating	Electrical work	Other trades			
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS											
Year: 1953.....	\$91.61	\$91.76	\$87.75	\$94.79	\$98.30	\$87.10	\$111.61	\$91.04	\$90.27	\$85.28	\$93.85
1954.....	93.98	94.12	89.41	97.38	102.71	90.39	112.71	93.19	92.86	86.88	97.36
1955.....	95.94	96.29	90.22	100.83	106.40	94.38	116.52	96.21	95.11	91.27	98.50
1956.....	101.83	101.92	95.04	107.16	112.31	100.19	125.61	102.39	101.59	97.63	104.94
1956: November.....	102.48	102.75	96.21	108.00	112.57	98.36	124.97	103.08	100.84	95.41	105.30
December.....	103.78	104.91	96.48	111.14	117.56	100.74	129.82	104.73	99.96	90.94	106.23
1957: January.....	98.55	99.57	89.76	106.45	115.67	97.28	127.65	95.93	94.86	83.90	101.73
February.....	104.80	105.63	98.19	111.33	116.89	99.57	130.75	104.25	101.38	93.09	106.50
March.....	104.23	104.76	95.93	110.96	116.97	102.31	131.26	103.49	100.47	91.77	106.35
April.....	104.88	105.70	97.46	111.33	116.97	102.31	130.48	105.14	100.88	93.37	106.54
May.....	106.39	107.02	99.00	112.61	117.73	104.14	131.66	107.04	103.88	96.64	109.93
June.....	108.11	108.49	100.65	114.58	119.42	105.55	134.06	108.84	106.63	101.33	111.32
July.....	109.15	108.93	102.03	113.34	116.80	105.95	132.83	108.60	110.77	107.01	114.05
August.....	111.07	110.48	103.79	115.63	120.74	107.76	132.50	110.60	112.41	109.06	115.30
September.....	110.84	111.14	102.65	116.55	123.77	107.57	134.30	110.88	110.16	104.00	115.89
October.....	110.25	110.53	102.65	115.97	122.11	105.79	135.49	110.00	109.21	103.34	114.23
November.....	103.01	104.27	95.99	109.65	116.12	102.20	127.91	103.52	98.64	89.41	105.77
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS											
Year: 1953.....	37.7	37.0	37.5	36.6	38.1	34.7	39.3	35.7	40.3	41.2	39.6
1954.....	37.0	36.2	36.2	36.2	37.9	34.5	38.6	35.3	40.2	40.6	39.9
1955.....	36.9	36.2	35.8	36.4	38.0	34.7	39.1	35.5	40.3	41.3	39.4
1956.....	37.3	36.4	36.0	36.7	38.2	35.0	39.5	35.8	40.8	41.9	39.9
1956: November.....	36.6	35.8	35.5	36.0	37.4	33.8	38.1	35.3	39.7	40.6	39.0
December.....	36.8	36.3	35.6	36.8	38.8	34.5	39.7	35.5	39.2	39.2	39.2
1957: January.....	34.7	34.1	33.0	34.9	37.8	33.2	38.8	32.3	37.2	36.8	37.4
February.....	36.9	36.3	36.1	36.5	38.2	34.1	39.5	35.1	39.6	40.3	39.3
March.....	36.7	36.0	35.4	36.5	38.1	34.8	39.3	35.2	39.4	39.9	39.1
April.....	36.8	36.2	35.7	36.5	38.1	34.8	39.3	35.4	39.1	39.9	38.6
May.....	37.2	36.4	36.0	36.8	38.1	35.3	39.3	35.8	39.8	40.1	39.4
June.....	37.8	36.9	36.6	37.2	38.4	35.3	39.9	36.4	40.7	41.7	39.9
July.....	37.9	36.8	36.7	36.8	37.8	35.2	39.3	36.2	41.8	43.5	40.3
August.....	38.3	37.2	37.2	37.3	38.7	35.8	39.2	36.5	42.1	43.8	40.6
September.....	37.7	36.8	36.4	37.0	38.8	35.5	39.5	36.0	40.8	41.6	40.1
October.....	37.5	36.6	36.4	36.7	38.4	34.8	39.5	35.6	40.6	41.5	39.8
November.....	34.8	34.3	33.8	34.7	36.4	33.4	37.4	33.5	36.4	36.2	36.6
AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS											
Year: 1953.....	\$2.43	\$2.48	\$2.34	\$2.59	\$2.58	\$2.51	\$2.84	\$2.55	\$2.24	\$2.07	\$2.37
1954.....	2.54	2.60	2.47	2.69	2.71	2.62	2.92	2.64	2.31	2.14	2.44
1955.....	2.60	2.66	2.52	2.77	2.80	2.72	2.98	2.71	2.36	2.21	2.50
1956.....	2.73	2.80	2.64	2.92	2.94	2.86	3.18	2.86	2.49	2.33	2.63
1956: November.....	2.80	2.87	2.71	3.00	3.01	2.91	3.28	2.92	2.54	2.35	2.70
December.....	2.82	2.89	2.71	3.02	3.03	2.92	3.27	2.95	2.55	2.32	2.71
1957: January.....	2.84	2.92	2.72	3.05	3.06	2.93	3.29	2.97	2.55	2.28	2.72
February.....	2.84	2.91	2.72	3.05	3.06	2.92	3.31	2.97	2.56	2.31	2.71
March.....	2.84	2.91	2.71	3.04	3.07	2.94	3.34	2.94	2.55	2.30	2.72
April.....	2.85	2.92	2.73	3.05	3.07	2.94	3.32	2.97	2.58	2.34	2.76
May.....	2.86	2.94	2.75	3.06	3.09	2.95	3.35	2.99	2.61	2.41	2.79
June.....	2.86	2.94	2.75	3.08	3.11	2.99	3.36	2.99	2.62	2.43	2.79
July.....	2.88	2.96	2.78	3.08	3.09	3.01	3.38	3.00	2.65	2.46	2.83
August.....	2.90	2.97	2.79	3.10	3.12	3.01	3.38	3.03	2.67	2.49	2.84
September.....	2.94	3.02	2.82	3.15	3.19	3.03	3.40	3.08	2.70	2.50	2.89
October.....	2.94	3.02	2.82	3.16	3.18	3.04	3.43	3.09	2.69	2.49	2.87
November.....	2.96	3.04	2.84	3.16	3.19	3.06	3.42	3.09	2.71	2.47	2.89
Percent change, November 1956 to 1957											
Avg. wkly. earnings ..	+0.5	+1.5	-0.2	+1.5	+3.2	+3.9	+2.4	+0.4	-2.2	-6.3	+0.4
Avg. wkly. hours.....	-4.9	-4.2	-4.8	-3.6	-2.7	-1.2	-1.8	-5.1	-8.3	-10.8	-6.2
Avg. hrly. earnings....	+5.7	+5.9	+4.8	+5.3	+6.0	+5.2	+4.3	+5.8	+6.7	+5.1	+7.0

Source: Department of Labor.

Construction Regulations

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FHA Housing Credit Regulations Amended to Remove Cash Payment Requirement for Closing Costs and Revise Discount Limits in Some Areas. (Federal Housing Administration press release No. 58-2, and letter to Directors of All Field Offices, No. 1710, dated January 9, 1958.)

The Federal Housing Administration announced on January 9, 1958, that its regulations had been amended to remove the requirement that an amount equivalent to estimated closing costs (i.e., fees for title search, costs of recording deed, hazard insurance, etc.) for an FHA-insured home loan be paid in cash by the borrower. Under the new ruling, the closing costs may be included in the amount of the loan, provided the FHA estimate of the value of the property is high enough in relation to the sales price so that the borrower's cash investment at the time of purchase is sufficient to cover the difference between the maximum insurable mortgage and the sales price of the property plus closing costs. The new ruling also permits the builder or seller to absorb the closing costs, if that is a customary practice in the community.

In addition, FHA announced the following changes in the maximum discounts which may be imposed by the lender upon the builder, seller, or purchaser in connection with FHA-insured mortgages bearing $5\frac{1}{4}$ percent interest: (1) increase from 2 to 3 points in California, Oregon, and Washington; (2) increase from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 points in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; (3) increase from 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ points in Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas; (4) reduction from 1 to $\frac{1}{2}$ point in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Rhode Island; and (5) reduction from 2 to $\frac{1}{2}$ points in that portion of northern Virginia served by the District of Columbia insuring office of the FHA--the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudon, and Prince William, and the cities of Alexandria and Falls Church.

FNMA Announced Reductions in Purchase and Marketing Fees and Increase in Purchase Price for FHIA and VA Home Mortgages. (Federal National Mortgage Association press releases No. 402, issued January 9, 1958, and No. 408, issued February 13, 1958.)

The Federal National Mortgage Association announced that, effective January 10, 1958, it was reducing its purchasing and marketing fee for FHIA and VA home mortgages sold to the agency under its Secondary Market Operations program, from 1 percent to $\frac{1}{2}$ percent for readily marketable mortgages. On February 13, this reduction was made applicable to all mortgages bearing a 5-percent or a $5\frac{1}{4}$ -percent interest rate.

For $4\frac{1}{2}$ -percent mortgages, the fee was reduced from $1\frac{1}{2}$ percent to 1 percent on January 10, and from 1 percent to $\frac{1}{2}$ percent on February 13. Also effective as of February 13, the price FNMA will pay for $4\frac{1}{2}$ -percent mortgages was raised by 1 point. Under the new schedule, prices will range from 91 to 93 percent of par, compared with the previous price range of 90 to 92 (see Construction Review, Vol. 3, No. 11, November 1957, p. 55). Prices vary by areas and by the amount of mortgagor's equity.

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